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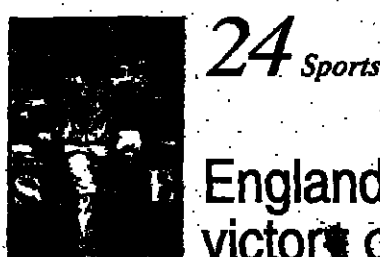
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Palestinian workers build houses in Ma'aleh Adumim yesterday. (Reuters)

Peace Now: Jewish building in West Bank up 134%

By NOAH STREIT and news agencies

Construction has increased this year by 134 percent in the Jewish communities of the West Bank and Gaza, but decreased inside the Green Line by 20%, Peace Now alleged yesterday.

The group claimed it was quoting information from a report by the Central Bureau of Statistics, but bureau officials said they could not confirm the numbers.

Peace Now also stated that according to its information, 730 housing units were started in the settlements during the first quarter of 1998 versus the 310 units in the first quarter of 1997.

The Housing and Construction Ministry said the figures were a result of natural growth in already existing settlements.

"We are not building new set-

tlements. We are talking about the same settlements. If a family has a grown child and he marries and wants to live near his parents, he needs an apartment," said Moshe Eilat, a ministry adviser.

"The government is lying to the whole world by saying the numbers are natural growth. There are still empty houses in the occupied territories," said Peace Now spokeswoman Hagit Ya'ari.

"I have not built a single apartment in five years," Ariel Mayor Ron Nahman said yesterday, but added that he had just received permits to begin construction again.

Ariel has recently absorbed 6,000 new immigrants, he said. "How many did the kibbutzim and Peace Now absorb?" Nahman asked.

Ya'ari said that statistics show a decrease of new building

inside the Green Line by 20%.

"This is disproportionate with the new building in the settlements. If the government needs new housing, why don't they build within Israel? If there is a lack of space, why does the government not utilize, for example, the 700 empty flats in Eli?" she asked.

Ya'ari said Peace Now representatives visit settlements and have found that there are many unoccupied apartments.

Yehudit Tayar, spokeswoman for the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza, said in response:

"We again can see the one-sided agenda of Peace Now, which comes out with the figures for the legal building in the Jewish communities of Yeshva, where, when checked with the reality of the situation, prove to be preposterous," she said.

PA calls off pullout talks

Kahalani-Abbas security negotiations to go ahead

By STEVE RODAN, MOHAMMED NAJIB, and JAY BUSHINSKY

In a last-minute reversal, Palestinian Authority officials said late last night that there are no plans to resume direct negotiations about the pullback today.

The officials said after a meeting in Gaza with PA Chairman Yasser Arafat that they are still waiting for an Israeli offer that would be consistent with the US proposal calling for a 13 percent IDF redeployment in the West Bank.

PA chief negotiator Saeb Erekat said he has not heard from his Israeli counterpart, cabinet secretary Dan Naveh, about any new proposals or a request for a meeting today.

"They did not call me," Erekat said last night after the Gaza session. "How can there be a meeting of the committees if they haven't called?"

Erekat also denied assertions by Israeli officials that PA deputy leader Mahmoud Abbas would hold another meeting with Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai.

Channel 1 reported last night that the Americans have assured the Palestinians that they would be shown maps of the prospective pullback when Mordechai next meets Abbas. The two met secretly on Saturday.

The Palestinian decision last night came after Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu indicated to the cabinet that he had authorized



Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu addresses the cabinet yesterday. (AP)

both Mordechai and Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani to hold separate talks with Abbas.

Israeli officials had said that both Mordechai and Kahalani would be meeting Abbas today.

Erekat said that Abbas would not meet today with Mordechai, but

that he would hold talks with Kahalani - not about the pullback, but about Palestinian demands for the release of security prisoners, Israeli security measures, problems of Palestinian laborers, and other peripheral matters, such as the opening of an airport in the Gaza Strip and safe passage between the

Strip and the West Bank.

Hassan Asfour, head of the PA negotiating department, said on the Voice of Palestine Radio yesterday that there are no plans to resume the pullback negotiations.

Erekat said he reviewed the negotiations with the Palestinian leadership in a session held in Gaza and led by Arafat. He said the Israelis had not proposed anything that was consistent with the US bridging plan, despite a pledge from senior government officials to do so.

Erekat said, however, that during the Mordechai-Abbas meeting on Saturday night, Mordechai had given Abbas some new ideas. He did not elaborate, but the ideas were to have been discussed at last night's meeting in Gaza.

According to Channel 1, Abbas found Mordechai's proposals Saturday night to be "very interesting."

The television reported that Abbas, referring to Israel's proposal to turn some of the 13% withdrawal area into a nature reserve, said that the Palestinians would object to "making [their territory] into a mosaic," and would prefer it all be in one spot.

Mordechai replied that the proposed reserve would be in the Judean Desert, the report said.

Abbas also said the Palestinians would not convene their national council to vote on repealing their covenant, the report said. Mordechai reportedly replied: "We will find a formula."

See PA, Page 2

Weizman repeats early-elections call

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN and LIAT COLLINS

President Ezer Weizman called anew yesterday for early elections, warning of disaster unless the government reaches a pullback agreement with the Palestinians.

The Knesset, meanwhile, is to vote today on no-confidence motions filed by four parties against the government's handling of the peace talks.

Before the Knesset recesses for the summer on Wednesday, two bills are scheduled for preliminary readings that would dissolve the legislature and move up elections.

Politicians are concentrating their efforts more on these bills, filed by Meretz whip Haim Oron and Labor MK Haim Ramon, because the no-confidence motions seem unlikely to garner the 61 MKs necessary to topple the government, particularly with talk by Labor MKs of providing the government a "safety net" for the peace process.

Weizman, speaking in Kfar Tuba in the North, where he was warmly hosted by the Beduin community, said: "We're approaching a moment in which there will be no choice but to do something. Otherwise, there will be an explosion on whose nature I don't want to elaborate."

"The situation is nearing the boiling point and we cannot let the negotiations blow up. It's time for a reshuffle; we must let the people think again. I know we have elections every four years, but a few things have happened here over the past two years which require a rethinking."

Weizman said elections would do no damage to the negotiations, noting that if he finds the move would delay the talks, by eight months he would reconsider.

Tel Aviv Mayor Ronni Milo, who is running for prime minister, yesterday came out in support of Weizman and called on MKs to respond positively to his call for early elections. Milo said this is an

emergency in which politicians must put aside their personal and partisan ulterior motives and act for the good of the state.

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, who accused Weizman a few weeks ago of trying to topple him when he called for early elections, did not comment yesterday.

"Everyone should get used to the idea that elections will be held as scheduled in the year 2000," a Likud spokesman said. "The president is not expected to take part in the argument the government has with the left wing. The government will continue negotiating to get the best agreement for Israel," he said.

National Religious Party faction chairman Shmuryahu Ben-Zur said "the president is competing successfully with Shimon Peres for the title of 'indefatigable subversive.' His call to advance the elections is undermining the choice of Israel's citizens."

Agriculture and Environment Minister and Tsomet leader

Raphael Eitan said "the president has stepped out of line. It is unprecedented for the president to be involved in political issues." He called on Weizman to "leave policy-making to those who were elected by the nation."

Science Minister Silvan Shalom said "it's strange that the president's call to advance the elections comes three days before the vote on the bill to disperse the Knesset. It could be interpreted as pressure on the MKs before the vote."

The Knesset today starts its last week of work before the summer recess with no-confidence motions scheduled for this afternoon by Labor, Meretz, Hadash, and Moledet on the peace process.

There is also a no-confidence motion by the religious parties aimed at torpedoing a proposed bill by Meretz leader Yossi Sarid, which would automatically grant citizenship to non-Jewish relatives of IDF soldiers under the Law of Return.

See WEIZMAN, Page 2

Mordechai: Defense establishment will crumble without another NIS 2b.

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai yesterday said that if the Defense Ministry's budget is not given an additional NIS 2 billion on top of the NIS 34b. proposed for next year, the entire defense establishment will collapse.

In a letter written to Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, Mordechai said that for the past two years his ministry was promised that the annual cut was a one-time action aimed to spur growth and that the defense budget would grow in the future.

The letter, first publicized yesterday on Israel Radio, said that the growing shortfall is not only threatening the investment in

advanced weapons and technology to combat increased threats over the next decade, but is shaking the foundations of the defense establishment itself.

"The main conclusion of the Defense Ministry and the IDF is that the defense budget is nearing collapse," Mordechai was quoted as writing.

The letter went on to explain how a non-partisan group of economists confirmed the Defense Ministry's assessments and concluded that the current budget "will bring the defense establishment to financial collapse."

Copies of the letter were sent to the Finance Ministry and the chief of General Staff.

Mordechai's spokesman Avi Benayahu confirmed the contents of the letter and said it was dated June 4.

Its publication now does not detract from its importance, he said, adding that this is the first time a defense minister has ever warned of a "collapse" if the budget is not increased.

The Defense Ministry's demands come at a time of deep recession and minuscule growth. The



Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai. (The Jerusalem Post)

ministry accounts for about 15 percent of the NIS 215 billion shekel national budget and is the largest slice of the financial pie.

The Treasury replied by saying the defense budget has risen over the past year by about 1% percent. They said that the increase demanded by Mordechai, which is equivalent to about 8% of the entire defense budget, would confound all the balance sheets of the proposed budget and set back the attempts to spur growth.

Treasury budget director David Milgrom told Israel Radio yesterday that everyone is asking for more money and it is impossible to increase all ministry budgets.

"We see this show every year as we prepare the budget," Milgrom said. "There are those who use terms like 'collapse' if they don't get their budget."

"These sums are enormous and its only natural to set priorities. We only intend to present the limits of funding before the cabinet and it will have to decide, because it will be impossible to give to defense and also to education and health and all the other areas demanding increases, and stay within the confines of the budget law."

Gov't economists: '98 jobless rate to hit 9.5%

By DAVID HARRIS

Unemployment will reach 9.4-9.6 percent this year - or as many as 217,000 jobless - according to senior government economists discussing the macroeconomic backdrop to the 1999 state budget.

In preparatory talks between the Finance Ministry and Bank of Israel, there has been widespread agreement that the jobless total will average 9% or some 204,000 this year. They say it will reach its 1998 high only in December and will only begin to decline once economic growth passes the 2.5% mark.

The population and workforce are increasing at an annual 2.4-2.5%, and only when the gross domestic product increases at a faster pace will unemployment begin to subside, according to Treasury Director-General Ben-Zion Zilberfarb.

The Treasury is forecasting economic growth at 1.5% this year, rising to 2.5-3% next year. Zilberfarb is already describing

1999 as a "transitional year," with growth only returning to its potential 4-5% by 2000.

When the Netanyahu government came into power just over two years ago, unemployment stood at 6.5% of the workforce. In 1990-91 the rate of unemployment peaked at 11%, when the economy failed to provide immediate solutions for the newly arriving immigrants from the former Soviet Union.

Analysts believe that the high rate of joblessness back then played a crucial role in the Shamir government's electoral defeat in 1992.

Since then many of the immigrants who were initially unemployed have adjusted their training credentials to local standards and landed jobs in, or near, their original professions.

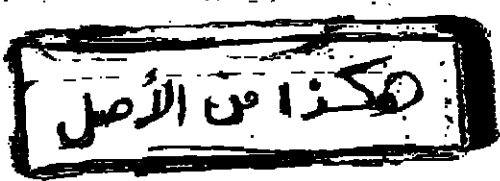
Today most of the increase in unemployment is in low-tech industries, and among those with less education, who are often veteran Israelis. In 1997, unemployment rose to 10% among those with eight years'

schooling or less, but was slightly higher than 4% among those with at least 16 years' schooling, according to government figures.

In addition to the textile and food industries, joblessness is also on the increase in tourism and construction. Tourism has not yet recovered from the wave of terrorist attacks that occurred just before the 1996 general election and construction is still suffering from the slowdown in immigration and the lack of economic growth.

Treasury Spokesman Eli Yosef yesterday refused to confirm the figures, saying details of such forecasts will only be given after they have been discussed with the prime minister in the coming days.

As yet no date has been set for a third meeting between Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and Finance Minister Yankov Neeman on the state budget. The meeting is likely to take place late this week or next Sunday, after the Knesset begins its summer recess.



NEWS

in brief

Finland envoy named as peace adviser

Ambassador to Finland, Ali Yihya, has been nominated for the newly-created post of adviser on the peace process and advancement of normalization with the Arab states. Foreign Ministry Spokesman Aviv Shir-On said yesterday.

Israel's first Arab envoy, Yihya is in his third and final year at the Helsinki embassy, but will return home before this diplomatic assignment is completed if the cabinet approves his appointment.

Foreign Ministry Director-General Eitan Bentsur proposed Yihya as the person most qualified to advise Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on issues related to the peace process and normalization of ties with the Arab world. *Joy Bushinsky*

Embassies told to publicize PA's gains

Instructions have gone out to all of Israel's embassies and consulates abroad to publicize the Palestinian Authority's economic headway and to counter the widespread impression that the peace process has not generated material gains in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"Despite the substantial improvement in economic indicators relative to the area under the PA's jurisdiction, this fact has not been conveyed to foreign ministries or the mass media abroad," said an internal memorandum released by the Foreign Ministry yesterday.

The diplomats were informed that 120,000 Palestinians work in Israel daily, a figure cited as a record. *Joy Bushinsky*

Haredi man stabbed in Jerusalem

Two Arabs stabbed a haredi man in the hand on Route 1 in Jerusalem's Pisgat Ze'ev neighborhood last night, police said. The haredi man, 24, sustained light injuries.

The two Arabs approached the man and asked him for money. When he refused, one pulled out a knife and stabbed him in the hand, police said. Both men fled, without taking any money from the man. *Amy Klein*

PA: Nearly 2.9 million Palestinians in areas

The Palestinian Authority yesterday said that nearly 2.9 million Palestinians reside in the West Bank and Gaza, and unemployment in the territories is at 21.5 percent.

The PA Central Statistics Department said 2,890,631 Palestinians live in the territories. Of this number, 1,870,000 live in the West Bank and 1,210,000 live in the Gaza Strip. Another 324,000 live in the Jerusalem region. The figures are based on the census the PA conducted in December.

The PA report says the average family in the territories comprises 6.4 people. The average monthly expenditure per family in the West Bank is 618 Jordanian dinars, or NIS 3,100, and 490 Jordanian dinars, or NIS 2,450, in the Gaza Strip. *Steve Rodan and Mohammed Najib*

Mofaz pledges to strengthen air force

Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz declared yesterday that "the strengthening of the IAF is one of our main goals in the coming year." On his first visit to the air force as chief of General Staff, Mofaz said it is essential "to maintain the qualitative gap of the IDF and to give answers to the developing threats from countries without common borders with Israel." Mofaz was welcomed to Hatzorim Air Force Base near Beersheba by OC Air Force Eitan Ben-Eliahu, then hosted by the new F-151 squadron. *Arich O'Sullivan*

A-G files petition to fire Afula rabbi

Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein yesterday petitioned the High Court of Justice against a decision by the Afula rabbinical disciplinary court not to fire the city's rabbi, Peretz Zioni. Zioni was convicted on charges of theft by a public servant, fraud and breach of trust. The disciplinary court took away some of Zioni's powers, but did not dismiss him.

Rubinstein said the gravity of the charges for which he was convicted made it imperative to fire Zioni. *Dan Izenberg*

Miller petitions court over Mt. of Olives cemetery

Jerusalem Deputy Mayor Haim Miller yesterday petitioned the High Court of Justice, asking it to order the government to implement its decision to enclose and to renovate the Jewish cemetery on the Mount of Olives.

In his petition, Miller said that despite its importance, the cemetery is terribly neglected and there is no security there; many tombstones have been damaged and there is garbage and animal refuse strewn about.

In June, the government agreed to allocate NIS 20 million to fix up the Mount of Olives cemetery, but nothing has happened, Miller said, and so he petitioned the High Court. *Itim*

Labor to decide whether to back Shetreet

Labor's Jerusalem branch will convene tomorrow to decide whether to run a separate list in the Jerusalem elections, a Labor Party spokesman said yesterday.

The meeting comes in response to Shimon Shetreet's request that individuals from Labor stop negotiating with Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert.

"The meeting will decide if [the party] will fully support One Jerusalem [Shetreet's party] or run a list of its own," said the spokesman. Leading Laborites, including Avraham Burg and Shimon Peres, have said that Olmert should lead a joint Likud-Labor list. Shetreet has said he will run even if Labor does not support him. *Amy Klein*

Mordechai, haredi leaders discuss draft

Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai held discussions in his office yesterday with leaders of the haredi community on drafting yeshiva students. They agreed to continue the dialogue between the defense ministry and the haredi community, defense sources said.

Attending the meeting were Deputy Housing Minister Meir Porush, MK Arye Deri and MK Avraham Ravitz. Mordechai, who voted against a Labor Party bill to draft yeshiva students, said last week he prefers to increase the number yeshiva students in the IDF through arrangements made with the haredi parties instead of by force. *Arich O'Sullivan*

With deep sorrow we announce the passing away of **ELI (Hans) VOGELSDORFF**
The funeral will take place at the Pardess-Hanna Cemetery on Tuesday, July 28th, 1998 at 15.30
Inquiries: 06-6873644 **The bereaved family**

To our friend
Susan Kehila
We mourn with you the passing of your beloved mother
JOY BERRYMAN
The management and staff of AbirNet

Strashnov Affair investigation begins

By GIL HOFFMAN

Francine Manbar, the wife of convicted traitor Nahum Manbar, and Ziv Chen, the former boyfriend of former Manbar lawyer Pinat Yanai, were questioned by police yesterday on the first day of the official investigation of the Strashnov Affair.

Police are trying to determine whether Manbar, who was sentenced earlier this month to 16 years in prison for selling poison gas material to Iran, received a fair trial. They are investigating whether the verdict was tainted by an alleged relationship between Yanai and presiding Tel Aviv District Court Judge Amnon Strashnov, while Yanai was serving on Manbar's defense team.

Francine Manbar and Chen, who were questioned for some 12 hours, are both to return today to national fraud squad headquarters in Bat Yam for further questioning. If police complete their questioning, they are to begin interrogating Nahum Manbar today.

The allegations of impropriety, which are partially based on an affidavit by Chen, were made in a petition by Manbar's lawyer, Amnon Zichroni, to the High Court of Justice in an attempt to disqualify Strashnov before sentencing on July 16.

Chen's testimony concerning the affidavit is considered the key to the police investigation. Detectives are seeking to verify the allegations in the affidavit and to learn the circumstances that caused Chen to make them.

Francine Manbar is reportedly being questioned about the content of taped conversations between her and Yanai, and about Yanai's connections to Strashnov and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's spokesman Shai Bazak.

Manbar declined to talk to reporters yesterday.

Following Nahum Manbar, Bazak, Yanai, and Zichroni are all expected to undergo questioning. Itim quoted high-ranking police sources as saying that Netanyahu himself might have to testify, depending on the direction of the investigation.



Francine Manbar is accompanied by her lawyer, Avi Richtman, outside the Bat Yam police station yesterday.

(Yael Somel/Israel Sun)

Arbel rejects criticism of prosecutors

By DAN IZENBERG

Criticism over the appointment of state prosecutors involved in the Nahum Manbar trial as the Justice Ministry's advisers to a police team investigating charges surrounding the trial are "part of the trend to undermine the stability of the judicial system," State Attorney Edna Arbel charged yesterday. Earlier in the day, the Movement for Quality Government wrote Arbel describing the appointment of Tel Aviv District attorney Dvora Chen, the chief prosecutor in Manbar's trial, as "problematic."

The Justice Ministry appointed Chen, and Southern District Attorney, Iska Leibowitz, to be the ministry's consultants to the police team.

In the letter to Arbel, the Movement for

Quality Government wrote that Chen's appointment "could create a number of problems since she herself is liable to be a central witness in the affair, and therefore cannot serve as consultant to an investigation which might require her as a witness."

"The Movement for Quality Government believes that this problematic appointment could endanger this important investigation. Therefore, to preclude the possibility of doubt being cast on the validity of the investigation findings, Chen should be replaced and the team that is appointed should be one that played no role in the trial."

Arbel told Army Radio that "suddenly the spotlight is once again turned on and an accusing finger pointed at the State Attorney's Office which is trying to get to the truth."

Arbel added that "if it turns out that there is

need to examine or investigate Dvora Chen, she will obviously step aside and not participate in the investigation. We want to get to the bottom of the matter as quickly as possible. Thus, it was only natural to turn to the attorney involved in the case, whose integrity was never questioned by [Manbar's attorney, Amnon] Zichroni or anyone else. We believe she can contribute to the investigation."

Meanwhile, the Justice Ministry spokeswoman said there was "no conflict of interest and there is nothing wrong with [Chen's] involvement in this matter. She will be able to instruct the police in the most effective and serious way. At this stage, what is needed is to advise and guide the investigators. No one can do this better than the person who is an expert in the case."

Iranian papers: Missile needed for defense

TEHERAN (Reuters) - Iranian papers said yesterday that a medium-range missile that Iran had successfully test-fired was needed for the country's defense and would be viewed as a defensive weapon by neighboring states.

"A look at the Iran-Iraq war (1980-88) fully justifies Iran's right to adopt a security measure to defend its borders and preserve its territorial integrity," the daily *Iran News* said in an editorial.

The newspaper said the missile was designed for defensive purposes only.

"Iran's neighbors consider it a weapon to defend their interests, too," it added.

Iran's Defense Minister Rear Admiral Ali Shamkhani confirmed on Saturday that his country had produced and successfully test-fired the new Shihab-3 missile, capable of striking a target some 1,300 km. away.

Iran has repeatedly urged Gulf states to cooperate in maintaining regional security, and has called for the US to withdraw its substantial presence.

The US said on Thursday it had detected the missile's test launch, and President Bill Clinton warned that the weapon could change the

"stability dynamics" in the Middle East.

Washington said the missile, of North Korean design, had sufficient range to strike Israel, Saudi Arabia, much of Turkey and portions of Russia.

Initial word of the test drew sharp reactions from Israel, which vowed to defend itself.

"Given that the American defense experts have already said that Shihab-3 has defense capabilities only, this contradictory attitude of the White House toward Iran indicates that the US administration is once again under heavy pressure from the Zionist lobby," *Iran News* said.

It added that Iran had not sought assistance from other countries in developing the missile.

The daily newspaper *Jomhuri Eslami* said Iran was seeking to provide stability and security in the region, saying the missile's development was a result of Iran's vulnerability to Iraqi missile strikes during the Iran-Iraq war.

The daily accused the US of supporting the Baghdad regime by sending ballistic missiles to strike Iran's residential areas during the eight-year war between the Gulf states.

[Arafat's adviser] Ahmed Tibi, in which they give marks to the 'good' ministers and the 'bad' ministers," he said.

Edelstein said it is inappropriate for a minister to seek Arafat's opinions "and then listen to his assessment of the prime minister - all the more so at a time when the defense minister is working, with government approval, on advancing the peace process."

Netanyahu said he has not deviated from his position that the Palestine National Council must delete the Palestinian Covenant's anti-Israel clauses, refuting the media reports that Mordechai would agree to this to be done in an alternative fashion.

Netanyahu stressed that Kahanah's meeting with Arafat was "fully coordinated" with him, but noted that it "was not held for the sake of conducting negotiations, but only to present positions."

Netanyahu asked other cabinet members "to refrain from holding contacts with the Palestinians in the absence of prior coordination with him and the defense minister."

have time to go through the subsequent readings before the recess starts. Since they need the support of 61 MKs to pass into law, their passage at the preliminary stage would be more a slap in the face for the government than a real threat.

Barak urges party to step up opposition during Knesset recess

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN

Labor Party leader Ehud Barak yesterday reiterated his call for early elections, urging party MKs to step up their opposition activity during the Knesset recess.

"After two years of Prime Minister Netanyahu, the public is beginning to draw conclusions from the damages caused to state security and the growing rift in the nation, as a result of the government's policy," Barak said, at a meeting of the party leadership to discuss plans for the recess.

The meeting was attended by MKs Shimon Peres, Ori Orr, Micha Goldman, Yossi Beilin, Nissim Zvilli, Hagai Merom, Dalia Itzik, Uzi Baram, Avraham Shohat, Shevah Weiss, Haim Ramon, Eli Goldschmidt, Benjamin Ben-Eliezer, Amir

Peretz and Ra'anan Cohen.

Barak said "even after the parade of ministers to Arafat, the peace process remains stuck and Netanyahu is a political bind; he must decide whether to be toppled by the Right if he carries out the pullback from the territories, or by the Left if he doesn't."

He warned of Netanyahu's intention to set conditions for the pullback that the Palestinians will not be able to accept, so that Netanyahu can declare "the ball is in Arafat's court."

Barak said Labor will not allow this to happen and make it clear to the public "this is not a pullback."

He said the prolonged delay in implementing the pullback is causing damage to the state's security.

"By now we should have been deep into the final-status talks without having lost the confidence

of all the states in the region and in the world, without damaging our relations with the Americans and also without strengthening Sheikh Yassin and endangering the security of Israel and its citizens," he said.

On Saturday night Barak hosted Labor's MKs and their partners at his Kochav Yair home for a social gathering intended, among other things, to improve the tense atmosphere following last week's confrontations, especially between Barak and Peres.

The two had clashed over the initiative to offer Netanyahu a parliamentary safety net to allow him to complete the negotiations and implement the redeployment.

Ramon said Peres and Barak "sat together like a pair of doves. As though nothing had happened between them."

Court to rule on Sheves publication ban

By DAN IZENBERG

Jerusalem District Court Judge Imo Habash is due tomorrow to hear the state's request for a publication ban on the first section of its allegations against the former director of the Prime Minister's Office, Shimon Sheves.

Sheves is suspected of accepting a bribe of NIS 350,000 in an affair involving a foreign country. He is also suspected of having tried to get another \$5 million. The facts of this affair are included in the first section of the allegations against him.

Yesterday, the state presented Habash with a draft of the indictment so that he could read up on the details of the affair which the state wishes to keep under wraps.

Sheves was represented by Attorney Dov Weissglas who informed the court that he opposes the ban.

Habash will hear the sides tomorrow and decide whether to accept the state's request.

Sheves is also accused of receiving NIS 450,000 in return for promoting a building project and cutting through the red tape usually involved in such projects.

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Assad, Mubarak discuss peace

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak (right) and Syrian President Hafez Assad meet in Alexandria yesterday for talks on the state of the peace process, as well as Assad's visit to France two weeks ago.

(Reuters)

Dor Shalom to field local candidates

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN

The Dor Shalom movement, which was founded by young Israelis after the assassination of prime minister Yitzhak Rabin, announced yesterday that it will take part in the upcoming local elections.

"Dor Shalom has adopted Rabin's vision to bring about a change of priorities in the

state, and to raise education to the top of the list," Dor Shalom chairman Yuval Rabin, the late prime minister's son, said at a press conference in Tel Aviv. "Running in the elections is a step towards turning Dor Shalom into the largest social movement in Israel."

Dor Shalom, which consists of some 30,000 activists, will field candidates in

Haifa, Tel Aviv, Beersheba, Kiryat Bialik, Ashdod and Migdal Haemek.

Brig-Gen. (res.) Yoram Yair, who is heading Dor Shalom's municipal staff on a voluntary basis, said that after 35 years in the IDF he had not wanted to enter politics.

"But the situation I see troubles me deeply," he said. "I admit I know little about politics, but after 35 years in the

army I know something about security. Security is deteriorating, not because of the Iranian missile or the Pakistani bomb, but because of the crumbling of Israeli society and the rift in it. You won't hear that from the GSS [General Security Service] head or the head of military intelligence. They're only authorized to give estimates of our enemies."

Polish Catholics place new crosses at Auschwitz

By LIAT COLLINS

MK Shevah Weiss (Labor), a Holocaust survivor, has sent a letter to the Polish president asking him to immediately intervene and ensure the removal of some 50 new crosses which have been placed close to the fence of the Auschwitz concentration camp.

The Catholic organization that put up the crosses reportedly said it would continue to raise them along the length of the fence around the camp.

The new crosses were placed near the large, 8-meter-high crucifix erected there several years ago, to commemorate a 1979 papal Mass.

"This act is a dreadful challenge to the feelings of Holocaust survivors and is reminiscent of the behavior of the pope who collaborated with the Nazis during World War II," Weiss said yesterday.

Jewish groups have long called for the large cross to be removed.

Kazimierz Switon, who began a hunger strike to demand the cross remain, ended his 42-day fast Saturday at the request of two bishops, but called on Catholics around Poland to place more crosses near the controversial one.

Late Saturday, several dozen Catholics from Silesia placed a three-meter-tall cross and about 50 smaller ones outside the walls of the camp, a dozen meters away from the papal cross, the PAP news agency reported.

Jewish organizations say the papal cross, visible from the former death camp, is an affront to the memory of the Jews who died there.

But many Poles view the cross — located where 152 Nazi resistors were murdered in 1941 — as a symbol of the nation's martyrdom under German occupation.

Poland's Roman Catholic Church officials said there are to be no decisions about the cross in the near future.

US Hebrew scholar Abraham Katsh, 92

By Jerusalem Post Staff

NEW YORK — Abraham Katsh, a Polish-born scholar who introduced modern Hebrew into American universities and persuaded Soviet authorities to open a trove of Jewish documents, died last week in Manhattan. The New York Times reported yesterday. He was thought to be 92.

In 1956, he talked the Soviet officials into granting him access to libraries containing historic Jewish documents and manuscripts that had been hidden from Western view since the Russian Revolution of 1917. Katsh microfilmed thousands of the documents, collected during a half-dozen trips.

His findings, which indicated that a wealth of materials on Jewish thought and history remained in the countries under Soviet domination, contributed significantly to the recovery of knowledge about Jewish culture in the Middle Ages, scholars said.

They included the collection belonging to Baron de Gunzburg —

some 1,900 pieces, mainly medieval manuscripts on all aspects of Judaism, including biblical commentaries, law, poetry and liturgy.

The collection had been bought by Russian Zionists from the baron's widow and was to have been given to the Jewish National Library in Jerusalem, but it was confiscated by the revolutionary government, the Times said.

Hebrew is taught in some 400 colleges and universities in the US today. But when he began to lobby for Judaic and Hebrew studies, he was a "shnorrer," Katsh said in a 1987 interview with a Jewish stu-

dent newspaper at NYU.

"I was met with a great deal of opposition," he said. "The difficulties were incredible. Nobody acted in a normal way. They all felt that Hebrew was a dead language."

Katsh was a professor at New York University and also served as president of Dropsie College in Philadelphia, a graduate school in Judaic studies that was later absorbed by the University of Pennsylvania. He was director of the American Israel Student and Professorial Workshop conducted in Israel and co-sponsored by the State Department and the federal Office of Education for 18 years.

Arab to run for Jerusalem mayor

Hadash candidate declares 'divided city' platform

By AMY KLEIN

The Hadash Party will run the first Arab candidate for mayor of Jerusalem since the city was reunited, as well as a list for city council, the party confirmed yesterday.

Nazim Bader, a party coordinator for the last 20 years, met with Palestinian Authority Minister for Jerusalem Affairs Faisal Hussein, to finalize his mayoral platform.

Bader will run on a "divided Jerusalem" platform — that east Jerusalem Arabs should be under Palestinian sovereignty — and hence, they should not vote in the municipal elections.

"We don't want the Arabs of east Jerusalem to vote, because our political stance is that they do not belong under Israeli sovereignty," said Bader, adding that Hussein approved this position, which is

concurrent with the PA's views. Though Hadash will not, as such, be "representing" east Jerusalem Arabs, Bader said he will work to improve living conditions for Jerusalem's Arab neighborhoods.

Bader, 44, is from Beit Safafa in southern Jerusalem. Problems there and in other Arab neighborhoods include poor education, bad roads, and unemployment.

"As long as people are paying municipal taxes to the Israeli government, we will see to it that they get the service they deserve," Bader said.

Hadash hopes to garner the votes of the approximately 2,500 Arabs still living in western sections of Jerusalem — as well as some left-wing Jews.

In the last two elections, Hadash supported the Meretz list, which currently has four seats.

Bader said that Hadash is running separately this time because Meretz is not running a candidate for mayor.

He does not expect to win the mayoral election.

"I have not seen a real alternative to Ehud Olmert, and I cannot believe there won't be a candidate representing the other side," Bader said.

Hadash, however, will get more publicity if it runs a mayoral candidate, and Bader hopes to win at least two seats on the city council.

In the last election, candidates needed about 6,000 votes for a seat.

"If Hadash will get votes from east Jerusalem, that would be wonderful," said Meretz municipal leader Ornan Yekutieli. "But if they are going to take a couple of thousand votes and throw them away, that would be a shame."

Women's groups slam rape sentence

Attacker got off light for not using force

By NOAH STREET

Women's groups reacted angrily yesterday to a ruling by the Beersheba District Court that one of four youths involved in the gang-rape of a 15-year-old girl last fall would receive a lighter sentence than the others because the court said he was the last to rape her and did not have to use force.

Judges Yehoshua Pipel, Baruch Azoulay and Haviv Amar on June 10 handed Victor Pali, 19, of Arad, a sentence of 18-months imprisonment and another 18 months suspended. The other three have not yet been sentenced.

The judges said that while the other defendants denied having any knowledge of the rape, Pali was the first to confess and implicate the others, thus making it easier for the prosecutor to go ahead with her case.

Asked for her explanation for the ruling, Naamat spokeswoman Carmel Eitan said: "It has to do

with the personality of the judge and the attitude of our society to violence in general and it has to do with education... We have seen such light punishments given to both sexual offenders and to battering husbands and it always makes us wonder why we see such severe punishment on trials involving theft and other crimes."

Masha Lubelsky, adviser to Minister of Internal Security Avigdor Kahalani, said "the judges got an impression that he [Pali] will improve himself," and that is probably why they gave him a lenient sentence. However, situations like these "are the reasons that the parliament accepted the law for a minimum punishment."

A spokeswoman for The Israel Women's Network, Orit Soliziano, said: "This is a scandal. The inability of the victim to protect herself is no reason to give the rapist a light. It makes us think even more that judges should have to take classes on how to deal with sex crimes."

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NEWS

in brief

Defendant throws shoe at Strashnov

A defendant threw a shoe at Tel Aviv District Court Judge Amnon Strashnov yesterday, as the judge was reading out the verdict in his trial for attempted murder. The shoe hit Strashnov in the elbow. Erez Akrishevsky, who was convicted of trying to murder a father and son in a dispute relating to black-market loans, also threw a computer monitor at Judge Ze'ev Hammer, who was bruised. Akrishevsky was removed from the courtroom, and the hearing continued in his absence. Judges Strashnov, Hammer, and Shelly Timen sentenced Akrishevsky to 21 years in jail for the attempted murders. They asked that the protocol of the hearing be submitted to the State Attorney's Office to determine if Akrishevsky could be tried for his conduct in court. *litm*

Doctor sentenced to public service for indecency

Dr. Shlomi Antebi, 58, of Rishon LeZion will perform community service after he confessed in the Tel Aviv District Court to committing an indecent act on his secretary when he served as the Kupat Holim Clalit district physician in Tel Aviv. Judge Hanan Efrati agreed to a plea-bargain under which Antebi will perform 150 hours of community service for touching his secretary under her clothes on July 14, 1997. *litm*

Baby sea turtles guided toward the sea

Wardens from the Nature Protection Society and National Parks Authority held a late night vigil last night, expecting the first of thousands of baby sea turtles to hatch and head to the waters. The eggs had been removed from mothers' nests and placed in artificial nests safe from predators. This year, 4,000 eggs were discovered, including 700 eggs of Green Turtles, a species so rare off the coast that last year not one nest was found. One reason the wardens closely monitor the event is to ensure that the young turtles reach the sea. Apparently confused by the security lights along the coast, newly-hatched turtles have in the past headed in the wrong direction and some were killed on the roads. *Liat Collins*

Neeman seeks coalition support for 'improved' health plan

By JUDY SIEGEL

Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman said he will try to persuade the coalition to support an improved version of his plan to collect NIS 350 million in direct payments by the public to their health funds – instead of the previous one that flopped last week in the Knesset Finance Committee.

In a meeting with Health Minister Yehoshua Matza, Neeman said the monthly payment to health funds should be progressive, according to income, rather than a head tax of NIS 20 per person, with a maximum limit of NIS 55 per family.

This is in addition to the proposed "co-payments" for visiting community clinic doctors and outpatient clinics and getting physiotherapy – and of course, the existing 4.8% monthly health taxes on income.

Matza did not voice his position on Neeman's scheme, but asked the finance minister to transfer NIS 300 million as soon as possible to the health funds to prevent their impending financial collapse.

The insurers' deficits are growing daily due to the failure of the two ministries' original plan for direct collections of co-payments and monthly fees by the health

funds; this plan was withdrawn at the order of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu last week, when he realized it would not pass the Knesset Finance Committee.

Without a direct payment scheme, the Treasury has refused to hand over its promised NIS 300 million allocation to the funds.

In a rare show of unanimity, directors of the four health funds, a representative of the Public Hospital Directors Association, and the head of the Israel Medical Association (IMA) yesterday held a press conference to sound the alarm.

The directors of Clalit, Maccabi, Meuhedet, and Leumit said that within a few days, they would have to begin closing community clinics, shorten the hours of those remaining, and take other "extreme measures."

Matza said he would not allow the public to be harmed and that threats of reduced services "contravene the health funds' commitments" to their members. "I will not let the health funds carry out a financial struggle on the backs of patients," Matza declared.

The health fund directors last week demanded the government immediately transfer NIS 500 million to prevent their funds'

Report: Health funds' deficit is 75% Treasury, 25% waste

By JUDY SIEGEL

A Health Ministry supervisor of health fund spending said yesterday that "75% of the blame" for their NIS 1.5 billion deficit was due to the Treasury's failure to update the basket of health services, while the insurers themselves were responsible for the rest due to waste and unreasonable spending on development, salaries, and other costs.

Supervisor Ya'acov Nevo wrote the first annual ministry report on the health funds, along with independent accountant Ya'acov Vitkovsky; it was released yesterday.

The deficits totalled NIS 826 million for Clalit, NIS 224 m. for Maccabi, NIS 248 m. for Leumit and NIS 192 m. for Meuhedet.

But when taking into account the deficit as part of the health funds' expenses, Leumit had a 15.6% and Meuhedet a 13.3% deficit, compared to 7.7% for the much-larger Clalit (which insures 60% of the population) and 7.5% for

Maccabi (with a 20% share).

For all the health funds, the second half of 1997 showed much higher deficits than the first half of the year. Being larger, Clalit benefits from the economy of size and spent relatively less on medical indications for their members.

Clalit and Meuhedet allocated an inordinate amount of money on development, including opening new clinics, refurbishing old ones, and purchasing new equipment.

But the average amount the health funds spent on each member per year was quite similar: NIS 2,750 for Clalit, NIS 2,735 Maccabi, NIS 2,850 Leumit, and NIS 2,886 Meuhedet.

Because Meuhedet and Maccabi depended more on physician specialists on staff than on referrals to hospitals, the average salary of their physicians was considerably higher than in the other two health funds: NIS 24,390 per month for Meuhedet; NIS 22,333 for Maccabi; NIS 18,721 for Clalit; and NIS 17,489 for Leumit.

collapse during the next few weeks.

Their current deficit is NIS 1.5 billion, but their accumulated debt since 1995 (when the national health insurance system began) is

NIS 2 billion.

IMA chairman Dr. Yoram Blachar charged that the Treasury has, since 1995, fought to kill the national health insurance system because it does not want to help

pay for it. Dr. Ya'acov Hart, head of the association of public hospital directors, said the hospital system – owed much money by the health funds – is on the edge of collapse.

Haim Yavin's return to 'Mabat' surprises Channel 2

By HELEN KAYE

Broadcaster Haim Yavin's scheduled September 1 return to anchor the Mabat evening news on Channel 1 was a surprise to his Keshet colleagues on Channel 2, the Keshet spokesperson said yesterday.

"His [The Fifth Evening documentary] program was scheduled for the fall lineup. We had heard nothing until the announcement Saturday," the spokesperson added. Speaking on Israel Radio yesterday, Yavin admitted to "feeling homesick for the news and current affairs program. My 10 months on a commercial channel were fascinating and instructive – and I learned a lot."



Haim Yavin

Yavin's return to his former professional home was facilitated, he said, by the reinstatement of the documentary clause in his contract which allows him to make a number of documentary films in addition to his duties as Mabat anchor. Yavin refused as ridiculous the NIS 1.3 million salary figure quoted in

Hebrew press, saying it was exaggerated.

Sources close to Yavin said that his return was in part caused by his desire to appear on television more than once a week.

Channel 2 director-general Uri Shinar said "I felt it was not correct to stand in his way and hold him against his will... Haim is a television man and I wish him the best of luck."

Sources for Geula Even, whom Yavin will replace, are quoted as saying that she is not surprised by the move, "but we do not understand why she is being replaced after raising the ratings 20 percent."



Geula Even (Flash 90)

Yavin said "I imagine that she is very upset, but I'll talk to her." Even herself declined to comment and sources at ITV said that there are as yet no definite plans for her future. IBA director-general Uri Porat approached Yavin immediately after he took over from Mordechai Kirschenbaum three months ago. Yavin, who left the IBA after a 30-year career there, had signed a three-year contract with Keshet.



Efraim Tohami (front right) and Sultan Bissan (back right) wait for the verdict in Tel Aviv District Court yesterday. (Israel Sun)

Tohami acquitted, Bissan gets life in murder of Beduin woman

The Tel Aviv District Court yesterday acquitted Efraim Tohami, from Moshav Argaman in the Jordan Valley, of the murder of Nuval Rubhi, 28, of Sbidat, but convicted him of conspiracy to commit murder. He is to be sentenced later.

At the same time, the court handed down a life sentence to Sultan Bissan, of Jatt, for murdering Rubhi on Tohami's instructions.

Rubhi went missing in March 1996 and her body was found that

May near a date grove at Argaman. Rubhi, a divorced Beduin, had been employed as a cleaning woman at Tohami's home, while Bissan worked as a guard at Argaman.

The court determined that Tohami and Rubhi had developed a sexual relationship. One night in March, Rubhi arrived at Tohami's home badly bruised, saying she had been beaten by her father, and asked for refuge.

The court found that Tohami and Bissan plotted to kill her, because

she had threatened to reveal her relationship with Tohami to his family, and tried to blackmail him.

One night Bissan took her in a car to an area adjacent to the Jordanian border, where he shot her in the chest with a hunting rifle. The court said there was not sufficient evidence to prove that Tohami was also present. It noted that Bissan had lied throughout his testimony.

The court is to begin hearing sentencing arguments for Tohami on September 1. *(litm)*

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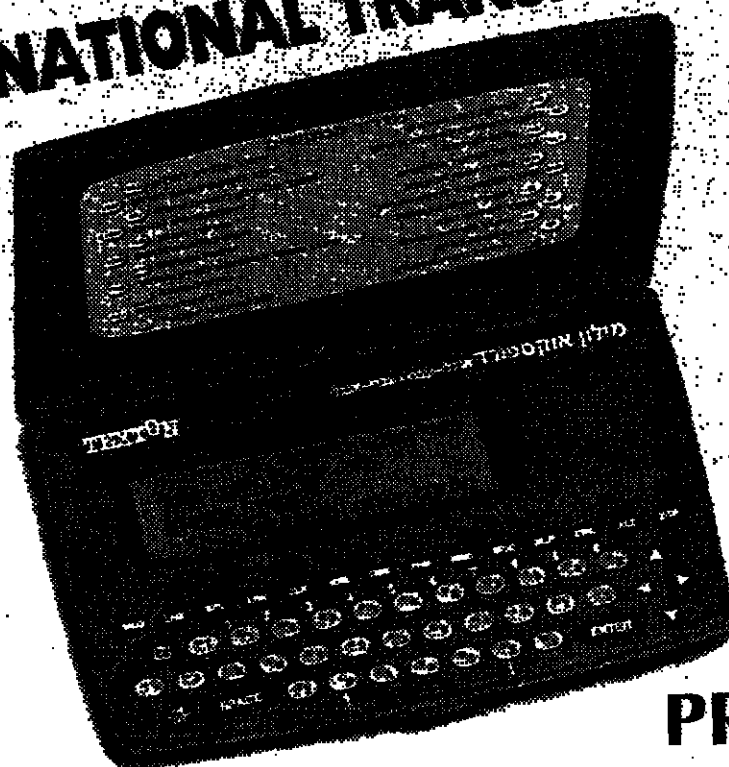
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Accomplished immigrants

Absorption Minister Yuli Edelstein shakes hands in his office yesterday with Avraham Yitzhak, the first Ethiopian immigrant to qualify as a doctor here, as Yitzhak Isaac, the first Ethiopian immigrant to qualify as an Israeli lawyer, looks on. (Brian Henders)

Through ministry cover-up:

Bnei Akiva receiving double funding

By DAN IZENBERG

The High Court of Justice yesterday blasted the Ministry of Religious Affairs for concealing subsidies to the Bnei Akiva youth movement and ordered the Education Ministry to cease what amounts to double payments to the National Religious Party-affiliated youth movement.

The decision, which will cost Bnei Akiva about NIS 1.6 million, comes in response to a petition submitted by the Scouts movement over the fact that, in 1997, Bnei Akiva received double funding from the two ministries.

Justices Mishael Cheshin, Yitzhak Zamir, and Dorit Beinisch also referred the facts uncovered during the hearing to State Comptroller Eliezer Goldberg.

In the verdict, written by Cheshin, the justices noted that in 1992 the Knesset abolished the special allocations that ministries had handed out to their favored institutions.

"Here we are in 1998," wrote Cheshin, "and those holding the keys to the cash register are behaving as they did in the past... Here is the ghost of the special allocations,

rising up from the dead. He dons a new mask and dances before us like in the bad old days."

According to Finance Ministry regulations, the Education Ministry is obliged to deduct sums youth movements receive from other ministries in calculating its own grant, unless there are exceptional circumstances, so that all youth movements eligible for government funding are treated equally.

At first, the Education Ministry did so, deducting from its allocation the sum which Bnei Akiva received from the Ministry of Religious Affairs. However, the two deputy religious affairs ministers intervened, claiming the money was for the extra expenses Bnei Akiva incurred in its special religious activities, such as the maintenance of synagogues and Torah scrolls.

Cheshin ruled that these expenses are an integral part of the operation of the religious youth movements and should not be treated specially.

During the hearing, the justices discovered that the Religious Affairs Ministry had allocated an additional NIS 419,089 to Bnei Akiva under a budget item that did

not identify it as a youth movement and therefore was overlooked by the Scout movement in its petition.

The court gave the Education Ministry 60 days to decide whether to deduct this sum from its allocation as well. The Scouts will then have 15 days to decide whether they want to petition the court again.

The Religious Affairs Ministry said it "will act in accordance with the law and allocate the subsidy funds in accordance with the criteria authorized by the attorney-general and the decisions of the High Court of Justice."

Bnei Akiva secretary-general Yona Goodman said in a statement the movement "accepts and respects the High Court decision" and called on the government "to find a way to enable the movement to continue its Zionist-education activities in light of the economic hardship it has encountered."

MK Avraham Poraz (Shinui) accused the NRP of trying to "return to the objectionable system of special allocations in order to give preference to the religious youth movements over the secular ones."

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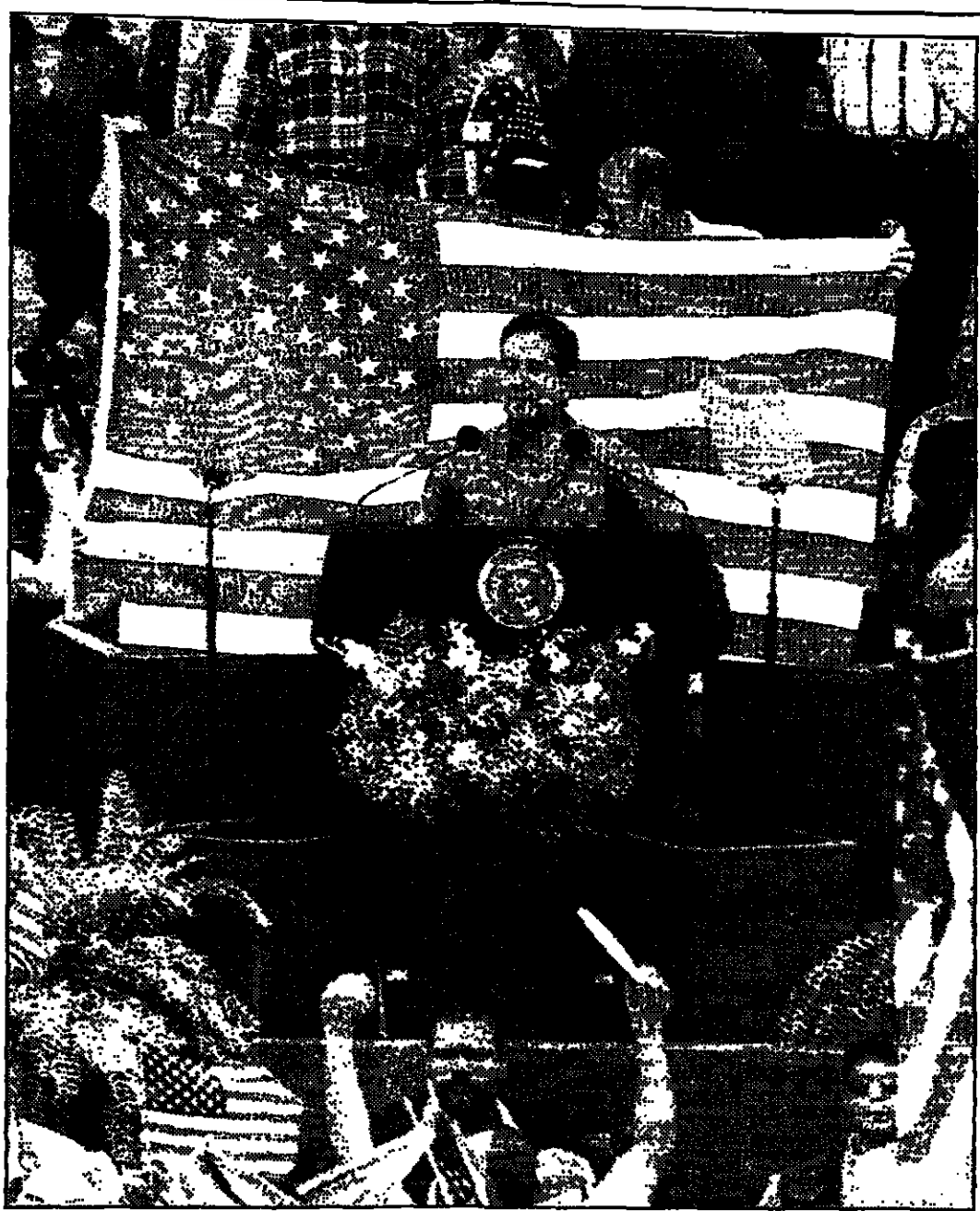
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Desperately seeking America

With a 51-star American flag as a backdrop, Puerto Rican Governor Pedro Rossello, addressing a rally in Guanica, Puerto Rico, announces a nonbinding referendum Saturday on Puerto Rico becoming a US state. The announcement, an apparent attempt to pressure Congress to act on a statehood bill, came on the 100th anniversary of the US invasion of Puerto Rico.

AT&T, BT form \$10b. alliance

By DIRK BEVERIDGE

LONDON (AP) — British Telecommunications PLC and AT&T said yesterday they will combine their international telephone operations and create a new Internet system in a \$10 billion alliance to put them "at the forefront of the global information age."

"We've got the two greatest brands standing shoulder to shoulder and we think we're going to transform the global telecommunications industry," the BT chief executive, Sir Peter Bonfield, told a news conference.

BT, the biggest British telephone company, negotiated the joint venture with AT&T, the biggest US carrier, after BT's earlier plan to merge with MCI Communications Corp. was busted up by a higher offer from rival WorldCom Inc.

To join forces with BT, AT&T will leave two other international deals: The AT&T-Unisource alliance that has Dutch Swedish and Swiss partners, and its

WorldPartners arrangement, a loose alliance with other international long-distance companies.

"The merging of our international assets to form this global venture will enable BT and AT&T to deliver in a unique and powerful way the seamless global services our multinational customers need and want," said AT&T's president, John D. Ziegler.

The companies said their 50-50 venture, to be named later, will be based in the eastern US with some 5,000 employees. It will be a free-standing company run by executives from both BT and AT&T.

The BT chairman, Sir Iain Vallance, will be its first chairman.

The telephone giants estimated that the business will have \$10 billion in revenues and operating profits of \$1 billion in the first year, which will improve earnings at each company "from day one."

The companies predicted 15% annual growth after that.

The companies initially plan capital expenditures of around \$1 billion per year in the business. The companies will use their

combined international networks to become a "carrier's carrier" for long-distance services offered by telephone companies operating in numerous markets.

BT and AT&T said that 90% of the global telephone market will soon be open to significant competition, and they want to woo business from startup phone companies in numerous markets.

They will not hold stock in one another, however, and have no plans to bring other companies in as partners in the joint venture.

The companies said they will be able to "provide an outstanding range of global services far greater than either BT or AT&T could provide alone or with their current alliances." The venture will have three main areas of operation:

• A worldwide voice and data business that offers telephone networks to multinational corporations and other big institutions.

• A global sales and service business that initially will target corporate clients in the financial, oil and information technology busi-

nesses.

• An international communications services business that will focus on low-cost, communications services around the world for business, retail and business customers.

Separately, BT and AT&T announced a deal to merge their operations on a 50-50 basis in the US, where they are involved in high technology and "emerging communications markets." After losing a deal with MCI, the No. 2 US distance carrier, BT was looking to the top of the US market.

AT&T agreed in June 1997 to a billion merger with US cable and Tele-Communications Inc., and just last week closed a \$3.4 billion takeover of Tele-Communications Group.

Although the companies will need approval from regulators in the US, Britain and the European Union, they predicted they could close on the deal within one year.

Japan PM-elect admits image problem

By TERUAKI UENO

MANILA (Reuters) — Japanese Prime Minister-designate Keizo Obuchi stepped onto the world stage for the first time in Manila yesterday and humbly admitted he had a poor public image.

But Obuchi strongly defended his abilities and right to lead Japan out of its worst economic crisis since World War II and promised to go on a nationwide tour so people could get to know him.

"I have seldom made wrong judgements in my political career," Obuchi told Japanese reporters, who traveled on a plane with him to Manila on a 12-hour visit to attend the annual Association of Southeast Asian

Nations (ASEAN) regional forum. "But one thing I may have done wrong is that I am not popular on television," he said in a major understatement.

Opinion polls show Obuchi is far behind top opposition leader Naoto Kan, head of the Democratic Party, and also fared badly among the public in his race last week against two rivals to be president of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party.

But in a vote decided only by LDP delegates, Obuchi, leader of the party's biggest faction, won out in a decision that guarantees him becoming prime minister when parliament reconvenes on Thursday.

Obuchi, 61, foreign minister since last September, has been portrayed at home and abroad as a

"cold pizza," lacking drive and imagination to haul Japan out of its economic quagmire.

Japan's major economic daily *Nihon Keizai Shimbun* said on Saturday that Obuchi was a "mediocre" politician who had to take desperate measures to break down conventional images of him and change into a "powerful leader."

It said Obuchi needed to improve his speaking skills and become less vague in his comments.

The portrayals, shrugged off with good humor by the genial Obuchi, have been bitterly denounced by Japanese officials as unfair to one of the country's most experienced politicians, who has made breakthroughs in relations with Russia and China as foreign minister.

Obuchi said that in a bid to boost his popularity, he planned to regularly travel across the country to meet people and exchange views with them. "I want to talk to various people and frankly exchange views with them," said Obuchi, who described himself as a "general manager."

Obuchi's comments suggested he might at last be ready to listen to the advice of image consultants employed for him during the LDP race.

A top LDP source said Obuchi, who has been in parliament since 1963 when he became Japan's youngest-ever parliamentarian at the age of 26, ignored advice to change his thick glasses and avoid so-called "goofy" exercises he does each morning in public.

Heavy fighting casts shadow over Kosovo peace talks

By DOUGLAS HAMILTON

PRISTINA, Serbia (Reuters) — Further heavy fighting in Kosovo at the weekend dimmed the already fading prospects for an early cease-fire leading to a negotiated settlement in Serbia's break-away southern province.

Yugoslav army tanks and artillery were in action against Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) positions in the center of the province, west of the capital Pristina, where the insurgents have cut the main road to the second city, Pec.

There was no immediate word on casualties.

Tough Western warnings to Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic to "back off now" in his army and security police campaign against the KLA abated last month.

The army presence in Kosovo has evidently increased and now it has gone on an offensive whose duration and scale are not yet clear.

At the same time, the insurgents show no sign of relenting in their war for independence, although they have suffered setbacks in the past 10 days. They were driven back when they tried to capture the town of Orahovac and ambushed with heavy losses while infiltrating from northern Albania.

The NATO allies, having muted their earlier threats of direct intervention to curb the use of massive Serbian force, are seeking ways to check the rapid growth of the ethnic Albanian guerrilla army — by squeezing its easy access to a virtual rear base in neighboring northern Albania.

The aim is to persuade the KLA that a military victory over vastly superior Serbian forces is not on the cards, that they had better seek a truce and form a partnership with moderate political parties to negotiate with Milosevic.

Judging by the scale of Saturday's operation, the Yugoslav army is applying more direct methods. The Democratic League of Kosovo, led by moder-

ate Ibrahim Rugova, said "the offensive extends further the zones of ethnic cleansing."

It accused the army of pursuing a scorched earth policy to deter Albanian Kosovars from returning to their villages, and it appeals to the major powers, NATO and the United Nations to intervene.

Both Milosevic and the major powers rule out independence for Kosovo, whereas most Kosovo Albanians are convinced it is the only way to throw off the yoke of Serbian rule, under which they live as second-class citizens despised by some of the Serbian minority here as an inferior race.

Information about the progress of US-led mediation efforts in the past week is being kept secret. But instead of calling for Kosovo's "enhanced autonomy" within Yugoslavia, Western powers now speak of "self-determination."

Some propose a "mini-Dayton" solution, repeating the forced negotiation process which ended

the war in Bosnia and created a single state which has two entities — a model some predict will lead in the future to Bosnia's partition.

The West fears that full independence for Kosovo Albanians, no matter whether it is gained peacefully or through the barrel of a gun, could ignite conflict in neighboring Macedonia and Montenegro, which also have ethnic Albanian minorities.

Some voices in the KLA movement have declared openly that their aim is to create a Greater Albania, wiping away imposed frontiers that have divided the Albanian people but that also set the 20th century borders of the southern Balkans.

Before talks can begin on a way out of the stalemate, the KLA, which claims to control half the province, must be brought to the negotiating table. But the insurgents appear divided on whether to join ethnic Albanian political leaders in a negotiating coalition.

Despite assertions by the con-

trary, the evidence suggests the KLA may not yet have a unified command structure.

As the experience of Bosnia showed, winter tends to take a lot of the heat out of fighting in this part of the world. But winter in Kosovo is still three months away.

The death toll in five months of fighting is now over 500, with 300 more missing, and an estimated 75,000 people driven from their homes. More suffering is certain with each day that passes under the status quo, especially for villagers caught in the middle.

Western allies are maintaining their option to strike at Yugoslav forces if they are seen to revert to indiscriminate violence against ethnic Albanian settlements.

But they are now re-examining ways of curbing the KLA's access to Albania to defuse the risk that Yugoslavia will claim it is justified in striking across the border, a move that would internationalize the conflict.

Methods under consideration may range from tightening checks on incoming ethnic Albanians at Albanian ports and Tirana airport and helping Albania establish effective military checkpoints in the northeast infiltration zone, to deploying a large NATO force up in the border region.

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A royal model

Upon the death of Franklin Roosevelt, American journalist Walter Lippmann wrote that "the genius of a good leader is to leave behind him a situation which common sense, without the grace of genius, can deal with successfully." King Hussein's handwritten letter to his brother, Hassan, detailing his medical condition, indicates that this final test of leadership is very much on his mind.

Next month, Hussein will mark the 46th anniversary of his ascendency to the throne in Jordan. The most remarkable thing about the king's rule is not just its longevity, but the fact that its remarkable staying power has been achieved mainly through consensual rule, rather than despotism.

A glance at Jordan's Arab neighbors illustrates the stark alternative. Compared to King Hussein, Syria's Hafez Assad (28 years in power) and Iraq's Saddam Hussein (19 years), are relative newcomers. Yet Assad and Saddam have compensated for their minority origins — the Alawites in Syria and the Tikriti clan of Iraq — with the ruthless repression of everyone else.

Hussein might be regarded as even less ethnically representative, since the Hashemites are a single ruling family installed by the British in Transjordan in 1921 and Iraq in 1932. Yet Hussein has ruled longer, with less force, and while allowing a greater measure of freedom than his neighbors have.

The institution of monarchy is itself old-fashioned and not thought of as a form of democratic values. But in Jordan it has provided an example of how minority rule can be stable by including competing groups, rather than through a reign of terror. The credit for this belongs to Hussein, who as Adam Garfinkle of the Foreign Policy Research Institute put it, "has been incumbent for so long that he has shaped Jordanian political institutions around his own personality."

Saddam Hussein's democratic opponents, the Iraqi National Congress, pattern their plan for a post-Saddam Iraq partly on the Hashemite model, in which different groups have a high degree of autonomy, and a main function of government is to prevent any group from dominating the others. In fact, this is a traditional Arab model which, if not fully democratic, provides more freedom than in most of the Arab regimes that have gone through modern "revolutions." The greater openness in Jordan is seen

even with respect to the king's illness, which in many countries — particularly ones closely linked to a single leader — would have been described as "a cold." Even the health of Russia's President Boris Yeltsin has not exactly been an open book, being characterized more by mysterious disappearances than by detailed information.

There is every reason to believe that Crown Prince Hassan will continue his brother's leadership towards greater openness and democracy. If Hussein is the longest-ruling leader in the world today, Hassan is probably the longest successor-in-waiting: 32 years. Hassan, who is 12 years younger than the king, has not been a successor in name only, but has for some time been intimately involved in national decision-making. The Jordanian people have King Hussein to thank that the transition to Prince Hassan, whenever it comes, will not be a jarring one, as might be expected in a country where most people have known no other leader their entire adult lives. It is hard to expect, at least initially, that Hassan will have the same common touch and mastery of the gesture that Hussein has employed both at home and abroad, while promoting the peace process. Israelis will not soon forget the pictures of the king kneeling on the floor with the grieving families in Beit Shemesh after a Jordanian soldier killed seven schoolgirls at Nahariya.

Even though the king's personal touch has been important both domestically and internationally, the role of the personal element should not be exaggerated. Hassan will play a pivotal role in the peace process one way or another, because Jordan's position in the region is unique. No other party has such a direct interest in the outcome of the Israeli-Palestinian negotiations as Jordan, nor does any country enjoy as deep a relationship with both parties. While the Egyptian attitude towards the peace process seems to ebb and flow depending on the degree to which Cairo can play a leading role, for Jordan the peace process is an existential matter that it cannot afford to forsake.

As the people of Jordan and the region await final word on the king's diagnosis, they have ample reason to pray for his good health. Not out of fear of what will come — though the unknown is always daunting — but out of gratitude for the contribution that he has made, and the hope that his role will continue.

OPINION

He's no partner

YOSEF GOELL

In slightly more than two years in national politics, the Third Way and its representative in the cabinet, Minister of Internal Security Avigdor Kahalani, have racked up a rather lackluster record. They have fallen far short of the idealistic image they sought to project when they presented themselves to the electorate after breaking away from the Labor Party.

That schism was generated by suspicions that the late prime minister Yitzhak Rabin was preparing to cede all or much of the Golan Heights to Syria in exchange for a peace treaty.

The Third Way may be forgiven their somewhat ludicrous performance in the Netanyahu coalition, and for even Kahalani's foot-in-mouth performances as internal security minister and on television, in recognition of the party's steadfast opposition to the monumental mistake of even hinting at a readiness to cede the

Third Way's position on the Golan more truly reflects the mainstream of Israeli public opinion than do Labor or the Likud with their intentional obfuscation and outright lying to the public.

Monthly public opinion polls conducted since September 1993 — following the unveiling of the Oslo Accords — have shown that a consistent 60-65 percent majority is opposed to giving up any of the Golan to Syria, even in exchange for a "full peace" with Damascus.

Quite clearly, the same 65-70 percent majority that continues to support the pragmatic need for a painful division of the country between us and the Palestinians simply refuses to buy the proposition that Hafez Assad is offering us a meaningful peace.

ADMITTEDLY, the same might be said of the Palestinians' intentions towards us. Five years after Oslo it should be clear that the Palestinians

Mere rote repetition of Assad's mantra that he has made a 'strategic decision' for peace with Israel' is deceptive

Golan to Syria.

Last week, the party scored its first success in the Knesset when it managed to pass the preliminary reading of a bill that would compel the government to submit any international agreement calling for the ceding of Israeli territory to a 61-vote majority in the Knesset and a popular referendum.

The intention is clearly to tie the government's hands in regard to the Golan, which was formally annexed to Israel in 1981, and to Jerusalem, which was united under Israeli sovereignty by a decision of the Knesset immediately after the June 1967 Six Day War.

The Third Way even succeeded in harnessing Labor leader Ehud Barak and several other Labor MKs to support the bill.

Despite the cries of rage and condemnation from Meretz and an assortment of Labor doves, the

have absolutely not the slightest intention of following up a division of the country and the establishment of some sort of Palestinian entity with a historic reconciliation with the Jewish state and the fostering of warm relations with Israel.

The difference between the two cases lies in the near-total dependence of any future Palestine on Israel and in the differential ability of such a Palestine and of Syria to do us harm. Despite their worst intentions, the Palestinians simply do not have the strength to threaten Israel's existence.

By contrast, a mistaken Israeli reading of Syrian intentions could threaten our very existence. Mere rote repetition of Assad's mantra that he has made a "strategic decision for peace" with Israel is deceptive. He has been repeating that stick even as he continues to build up his missile and poison and nerve

Dry Bones

GIANT KILLER TIDAL WAVE HITS PAPUA NEW GUINEA!

AT LEAST THAT'S ONE THING THAT ISRAEL DOESN'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT... RIGHT?

WOW!

PLEASE??

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Israel's new model army

BERNARD WASSERSTEIN

The current agitation over exemption of haredim from army service is a political provocation, a social red herring and a military irrelevance. Why this fuss about the conscription of weedy, semi-educated youths, many of whom would in any case be physically and intellectually unfit to serve? Meanwhile, it is high time Israel faced up to the much more fundamental question: does the concept of quasi-universal military service make sense for Israel any more?

Fairness, we are told, dictates that all should do their bit. Yet at the moment all do not, in fact, serve. Most Arabs do not — their exclusion is the single most significant indicator of their more general alienation from the vital currents of Israeli society. So long as Arabs are not called up, the fairness argument is bogus. Properly described, Israeli military service is not, in fact, quasi-universal but pseudo-universal.

Four types of army have generally existed in advanced societies in modern history. The first was the elite caste — the model here was the Prussian officer corps. The second was the mass citizens' force — this dates back to French revolutionary concept of *levée en masse*. Related to this is the third — the revolutionary guerrilla band, of which Garibaldi's "Thousand" was the archetype. The fourth is the professional, high-tech organization epitomized by today's US armed forces.

A common misconception is to regard the IDF as primarily of the second type — a national people's militia. This conception owed much to its socialist-Zionist ori-

gins and to this day dominates its internal propaganda. Israelis have always tended to think of their army like the Persians as described by Herodotus: "Their sons are carefully instructed from their fifth to their twentieth year in three things alone: to ride, to draw the bow and to speak the truth."

Nearly all advanced countries have already abolished conscription; Israel should follow suit

In reality the IDF has combined elements of all four historic types. There have always been tendencies towards elitism in its structure and in its self-image. The underground nature of its birth under the British mandate inevitably introduced aspects of the third type.

And from a very early stage Israeli military theorists prized technological superiority above brute force of numbers.

Nearly all advanced countries have already abolished conscription or are considering doing so. Israel should follow suit.

Incidentally, let us set aside here the dangerous nonsense, beloved of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, about the Middle East being a specially "dangerous neighborhood" requiring a special strategic theory not applicable in other parts of the universe inhabited by human beings. The phrase is little

more than an encoding for the American Jewish market of the racist right-wing assumption that Arabs are inherently savages.

Europe has suffered far more from vicious warfare in this century — and in most preceding ones. Has Europe in our lifetimes been a less dangerous "neighborhood" than the Middle

East? The trend away from the draft in Europe is less a product of the end of the Cold War than of the technologization of contemporary warfare. Small, professional armies make much more sense in the missile age than kibbutzniks with Uzis.

WHAT about the vital social role of Israel's army, its special integrative function for immigrants and submerging groups? This too is today a half-truth derived from outmoded Zionist ideology. The reality is that, by integrating only some, the army stamps an indelible mark of exclusion on the two most submerged groups in Israeli society — the barely tolerated Arab minority and the semi-socialized anti-Zionist haredim.

In any case, armies do not and should not exist primarily as social work departments. If Israel has problems of social integration, better confront these directly

rather than obliquely. This issue is related to the question of immigration. It is an open secret that more non-Jewish immigrants than Jewish ones are now entering the country. The sources of Jewish immigration have dried up.

The age of mass aliyah has ended for good. Meanwhile so-called temporary foreign workers stream in — even during the current recession. Whatever the intention, the likelihood is that many will stay for good. Here is a third significant group excluded from military service — and therefore from full participation in Israeli society. Yet the superannuated nostrums about the integrative role of the army are still trotted out as if they had some current applicability.

What Israel today needs — and what (since military planners are not fools) the IDF is in fact moving towards — is a compact, highly trained, professional, high-tech standing army. Such an army must be permanently mobilized — in large measure in laboratories and at computer screens.

This is the force that will deal with Israel's real security needs in the next millennium. Appearance notwithstanding, colonial bully-boy tactics and cross-border reprisal raids have already faded as central elements in Israel's forward strategic thinking. The new model Israeli army will require an ever more sophisticated capacity to deter microbiological, missile, or other high-tech threats.

To all this the current mischievous, misbegotten, and misguided bull-babble about haredi draft dodgers contributes exactly nothing.

Save the doctors

CHARLES KRAUTHAMMER

For the first time since the demise of HillaryCare four years ago, Congress is readying a frontal attack on health care. Alerted by that now legendary moment in *As Good As It Gets* when Helen Hunt curses out her HMO to the foot-stomping applause of every audience in America — and driven by polls confirming mounting popular anger — Congress is posing as champion of the patient against the HMO.

This is all well and good. But as Congress prepares to adjudicate between patient and HMO, there is one rather important figure being left out of the equation. You can have all the fancy machines, all the laboratories, all the health care advocates, all the patient's bills of rights you want. Take away the doctor and you've got nothing.

And the doctors are drowning. Six months ago I wrote a column arguing that loss of autonomy and income were driving the best doctors to early retirement. But there is another consequence of the managed care revolution that is only now becoming apparent: The private group practice, which delivers some of the best medicine in the country, is being driven out of business.

When we talk about the decline of medical economics, people imagine that we are talking about doctors

having a hard time paying for the yacht or the mountain chalet. What I'm talking about here, however, is the money to keep a practice — perhaps your doctor's — from going bankrupt.

Here in Washington, a doctor friend tells me, some of the best, most established practices are on the verge of financial collapse. The relentless cuts in reimbursement by Medicare and by private insurers for services rendered are simply making it impossible to meet overhead.

Basic costs are extraordinary. My friend's medical (i.e., non-surgical) group pays \$7,000 in malpractice insurance — a month. Add rent for offices and examining rooms. Add the salaries of a team of nurses that ministers to the ever-rising patient load. Top that finally with the sky-rocketing cost of administration. Government and managed-care regulations of superefficiency complexity impose a huge and wasteful tax in time, money and special hires.

"If I lived in a communist country, I could not possibly have more regulation in my work than I have today," he observes.

This was all still supportable under the reimbursement schedules that reigned only five years ago. It is not

supportable under the drastically reduced reimbursement schedules of today. Says my friend, a superbly skilled and uncommonly devoted doctor, "quality of life in medicine is worse today than at any time in my 15 years of private practice."

WHAT to do? I have a suggestion, a simple though fairly radical innovation, that might actually save the private group practice. (The solo practice is already dead.) Since we're all for a bill of rights that will require insurers and HMOs to offer all sorts of choices and services to patients, why not add this single provision: Doctors may charge — and insurers must reimburse — a nominal fee for telephone consultations.

Consider: Lawyers and accountants and consultants of every ilk bill by the hour. These hours are not limited to office visits. They include time spent on the phone. Doctors are the anomaly. They traditionally have given away phone consultations for free.

That was nice when they could afford it. Today, however, a nominal fee of, say, \$1 a minute for a nurse consultation and \$2 for a physician might be enough to keep many of these practices from collapsing. My friend has at least three nurses on

duty all day at \$20-\$25 an hour. They spend fully 50 percent to 75 percent of their time on phone consultations. This is entirely unreimbursed.

At a co-payment of 20 percent, a dollar a minute would mean a patient cost of 20 cents a minute, not terribly much more than calling Aunt Sally in Topolka. Yet it could help significantly offset the cost of running a practice.

I'm not talking here about charging for appointments made by phone. I'm talking about the symptoms-and-signs call that elicits a highly sophisticated professional judgment — diagnosis and therapy, reassurance and advice — often with an added call to a pharmacy for a prescription. By what reason other than tradition and gentility — and today's health care system has obliterated tradition and outlawed gentility — should such a service go unpaid?

A modest proposal. Call it the Physicians Rescue Act of 1998. Sure it will increase the cost of medical care. But polls show that people are willing to pay a few extra dollars a month for more choice and more rights as patients. Why not a couple of dollars more to ensure that good doctors still will be out there to choose from?

(Washington Post Writers Group)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

KRISTALLNACHT RESEARCH

Sir, — I represent "Kultur in Berlin," an organization researching Jewish history in the area formerly known as East Berlin.

Since October 1997, our research group has been working on an exhibition on the subject of "Reichskristallnacht," specifically on the excesses against the Jewish people in November 1938 in the area of Berlin-Mitte, Lichtenberg and Friedrichshagen. This exhibition will be presented in November 1998 in the Museum of Berlin-Mitte.

In conjunction with this exhibition we are looking for eyewitnesses and information regarding the destruction of the Jewish synagogues, stores, Jewish property

and cemeteries in the areas of Berlin-Mitte, Friedrichshagen and Lichtenberg, who are able to tell us about their experiences.

We are also interested in any photos of Jewish monuments, stores, offices, etc. pertaining to the areas Berlin-Mitte, Friedrichshagen and Lichtenberg.

I can be contacted by phone from tomorrow until August 3 at the Hotel Galei Hasharon, Netanyahu (09 834-1946) or at the address below.

ASTRID SCHLEGEL
Kultur in Berlin,
Friedrichstrasse 120,
Berlin 10117,
Germany.

TRANSPARENT EBAN

Sir, — I derive much amusement from reading Abba Eban's blatherings. He is so transparent.

Had Shimon Peres won election as prime minister, instead of his article "A disastrous process" (July 10), Eban would be raving about the efficacy of the magnificent democratic system that had been enhanced by the direct election of the premier.

As to his comment that Israel had broken new ground in a significant way with the Arabs, the facts speak differently:

Even though Yitzhak Rabin and Peres visited Morocco right after

signing the Oslo Accords in order to beg Hassan to open diplomatic relations with us; he turned them down flat. The same thing occurred with Tunisia.

Regarding the much vaunted economic conferences — next-to-nothing was achieved, as the Arabs made it very clear they were fearful that Israel would dominate them both economically and politically.

The "benefits" of Oslo are simply in the utopian imaginations of naive people.

Kochav Yair.

SHAMED IN PUBLIC

Sir, — Our Sages tell us he who shames a person in public, will have no portion in the world to come.

How sad therefore that our observant finance minister, shamed not one person but a whole section of the population — our senior citizens — by announcing on radio and tele-

vision that because of the TV license fee reduction granted them, all others have to pay more. He should of fulfilled the biblical commandment of "You shall honor the old."

EMANUEL FISCHER
Jerusalem.

GOOD MANNERS, SAFE DRIVERS

Sir, — Youngsters in this country do not need to be given lessons in driving and road safety at school from the age of six, as suggested by a traffic expert and submitted in a bill to the Knesset earlier this month by a group of MKs.

However, both youngsters and their parents should be given lessons in elementary good manners and consideration for other people. Once they become acquainted with the idea that having manners is an essential part of a good education, many road safety measures will automatically take care of themselves. Without manners, no road safety campaign will ever succeed.

D. EIDELMAN
Ramat Hasharon.

OBLIGATORY READING

Sir, — In the future, before members of the opposition dare criticize our prime minister for holding up the peace process, they should be obligated to read Moshe Zak's article "The wall of hatred" (July 15).

Who can honestly disagree with his thesis that "the covenant's amendment... is essential to the existence of peace between Israel and the Palestinians."

The opposition should firmly insist that the PLO covenant be amended to eradicate hatred in Palestinian society against Israel. Otherwise any criticism of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu regarding the peace process is a shame and an insult to our intelligence.

MAISH RUBIN
Beersheba.

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

65 years ago: On July 27, 1933, The Palestine Post reported the trial of five Arabs accused of murdering the Jewish settler Yacobi and his son at Nahalal. The accused, members of a terrorist organization affiliated with the Young Men's Moslem Association, denied their guilt.

50 years ago: On July 27, 1948,

The Palestine Post reported that Jewish-held Jerusalem would be declared Israel-occupied territory and a military governor would be appointed. Mr. Behor Shitreet, minister of police, announced long-range plans for the reorganization of the former Mandatory police.

25 years ago: On July 27, 1973, The Jerusalem Post reported that

the US vetoed a UN Security Council's resolution which would have strongly deplored Israel's continued occupation of territory taken in the 1967 war, asserting that its adoption would have overturned any agreed basis on which an eventual settlement could be reached.

Alexander Zvielli

Southern Curse

Why America's Murder Rate Is So High

By FOX BUTTERFIELD

MURDER in the United States has been dropping dramatically for years, to the lowest level since the modern crime wave began in the 1960's. But this encouraging decline has masked a fundamental fact — that there is no such thing as an American murder rate.

In fact, there are sharp regional differences in homicide, with the South having by far the highest murder rate, almost double that of the Northeast, a divergence that has persisted for as long as records have been kept, starting in the 19th century. The former slaveholding states of the old Confederacy all rank in the top 20 states for murder, led by Louisiana, with a rate of 17.5 murders per 100,000 people in 1996. The 10 states with the lowest homicide rates are in New England and the northern Midwest, with South Dakota's the lowest at 1.2 murders per 100,000 people.

It's Personal

Experts note, in addition, that much of the disparity in murder rates between the South and other sections of the country stems from a difference in the character of Southern homicide. In the South, many murders are of a personal and traditional nature: a barroom brawl, a quarrel between acquaintances or a fight between lovers. Elsewhere, homicides usually begin with another crime, like a robbery gone bad, and typically involve strangers.

Most important, the experts say, the high Southern murder rate is a key factor behind America's disproportionately high homicide rate compared with other democratic, industrialized nations. In 1996, the last year for which data are available, the United States murder rate was 7.4 per 100,000 people. The next closest country was Finland, at 3.2 per 100,000 people, with France at 1.1, Japan at 0.6 and Britain at 0.5.

While the United States has much more murder than comparable countries, it does not necessarily have much more crime. England has a higher rate of burglary; France has a higher rate of auto theft. The Netherlands and Australia have about the same total crime rate.

"The whole American scandalously high homicide rates are Southern in origin," says Roger Lane, a professor of history at Haverford College and author of "Murder in America: A History" (Ohio State University Press, 1997). Until the 1980's, Professor Lane said, America's big cities actually had murder rates lower than the national average, since the national rate had been skewed upward by Southern homicides.

The question of why murder is so prevalent in the South has fascinated observers as far back as Alexis de Tocqueville, who in the early 1830's recorded a remark by a young lawyer he encountered in Alabama. "There



A body being removed from a home in Macon, Ga., home last year after a domestic dispute. Crimes of passion and other murders of a personal nature keep the South's homicide rate high.

is no one here but carries arms under his clothes," the lawyer said. "At the slightest quarrel, knife or pistol comes to hand. These things happen continually; it is a semi-barbarous state of society."

A study of 19th century judicial records completed in 1980 by Michael Bindus, a lawyer, found that from 1800 to 1860 the murder rate in South Carolina, an overwhelmingly rural, agrarian area, was four times higher than that of Massachusetts, then the most urban, industrial state. More than a century later, the difference persists in almost the same magnitude. In 1996, the murder rate in South Carolina was 9 per 100,000 people, according to the Federal Bureau of Investigation; in Massachusetts it was 2.6 per 100,000 people.

High Southern homicide rates challenge a central theory of criminology, which predicts more murder in densely populated urban areas where crowding and poverty break down

traditional social ties and values.

Southern homicide was typically rural, and over the years many theories have been advanced to explain it. Frederick Law Olmsted, who traveled through the South in the 1850's and wrote about it in "Journeys and Explorations in the Cotton Kingdom," pointed to the persistence of frontier conditions in the region. Southern plantation agriculture, characterized by widely scattered settlements and a lack of roads and schools, left the region a frontier until after the Civil War, helping to breed lawlessness.

'Primal Honor'

Contemporary historians have suggested other sources of Southern bellicosity. David Hackett Fischer, a professor of history at Brandeis University, says a critical factor was the heavy settlement of the South by immigrants referred to today as Scotch Irish — people from the north of

Britain, the lowlands of Scotland and the north of Ireland.

These settlers, whom Benjamin Franklin described as "white savages," brought with them a culture based on centuries of fighting between the kings of England and Scotland over the borderlands they inhabited. They had a penchant for family feuds, a love of whiskey and a warrior ethic that demanded vengeance, Professor Fischer said.

The mother of Andrew Jackson, herself an immigrant from the north of Ireland, advised her boy: "Andrew, never tell a lie, nor take what is not your own, nor sue anybody for slander, assault and battery. Always settle them cases yourself." He did, becoming a famous pistol dueler.

Behind such toughness was an ethic of "primal honor," according to Bertram Wyatt-Brown, a professor of history at the University of Florida. Above all, honor meant reputation. "You identified yourself on the basis

of what others think of you, so appearances mattered," Professor Wyatt-Brown said.

Honor was reinforced by slavery. Slavery by its nature dishonors one group and contrives to give all honor to another. In the South, race helped turn the distinction between master and slave into an absolute divide, perpetuating whites' belief that they were people of honor. And since slavery could be maintained only by the daily exercise of brute force, slave owners became very sensitive to the slightest threat to their superiority, a touchiness that expanded from plantation fields to all areas of their lives, Professor Lane said.

Outlaw Legacy

The Reconstruction period after the Civil War, in which white Southerners often resorted to terror or killings to restore their political control, helped perpetuate the high level

of violence in the South, a problem that reached its apogee in the 1890's with lynching.

The cult of honor was gradually transmitted into African-American slave society, scholars now believe, as slaves and their emancipated descendants found themselves outside the law in the South, with sheriffs, judges and juries all controlled by whites. "For blacks in the South, there was no alternative to settling disputes personally and physically," said Professor Lane.

The South in the 20th century has become more like the rest of the nation, as it has become more urban and industrial. Waves of whites flocking from the cold North to the Sun Belt states and the great migration of blacks going the other way also have made the regions more similar.

But the concern with honor persists, especially in smaller cities and

Continued on page 12

New Rules, New Caution

Telling a Journalistic Coup From a Crime

By FELICITY BARRINGER

THE last time producers for "60 Minutes" broadcast video footage taken with a hidden camera, they used the herky-jerky idiom of journalism verité to show Florida pawn shop owners buying potentially stolen goods. In the kind of on-camera moment of truth that is the show's signature, the correspondent Mike Wallace told a pawn broker, "This cop, Jack Gee, told me this morning — he says that legalized fencing is what you people do."

There is a little irony there. It is indeed ethically dubious to deal in stuff obtained underhandedly. And reporters do it all the time. Every day, reporters in Washington and elsewhere, like Kenneth W. Starr's prosecutors, get information about a secret grand jury's investigation into the relationship between President Clinton and Monica S. Lewinsky. Every day, reporters get information from sources who violate a confidence or a law by passing it on.

Hacking Into Voice Mail

But journalists themselves were rarely charged with violating laws — until recently, when The Cincinnati Enquirer, which quoted executive voice-mail messages in a series on Chiquita Brands International, found itself apologizing for the articles and paying Chiquita more than \$10 million. Chiquita charged that a reporter broke into its computerized voice-mail system — a violation of state wiretapping laws. The editors had be-



Patrick Crowley

lieved the information came from a corporate insider, in which case the source, not the newspaper, would usually face the legal consequences.

For journalists, it is second nature to draw a line between stealing information (forbidden) and accepting pilfered infor-

mation (fine). To paraphrase Mr. Wallace, legalized fencing of information is what news people do.

But such ethical hair-splitting is now facing a serious challenge. Businesses, feeling the pressure of stepped-up financial reporting over the last decade, are

becoming bolder about attacking journalists, publicly and with lawsuits. And reporters and editors, thrust into the spotlight, are forced to articulate ethical distinctions that can be hard to defend.

Reporters' ethical mimics are carefully choreographed for a profession that sees its calling as telling uncomfortable, important truths. They are out of step with a public that is angry about sensationalism, grand jury leaks and the press's perceived arrogance. Journalists who take little time to explain why the tawdrier side of their work may be necessary can pay a price; lawyers who put the news media's ethics on trial are finding receptive juries.

Sneaky Phone Calls

When Steve Weinberg, an author and University of Missouri journalism professor, recently taught a class that mixed journalism and law students, he found "the law students were absolutely flabbergasted and enraged" at practices like calling an executive after 6 P.M. to avoid a secretary or filing a Freedom of Information Act request for government files on an unwilling subject. It was a revelation, he said, "to see the disconnect between our values and those of nonjournalists."

The disconnect is not complete: there are common links. Breaking the law is almost universally taboo in the news business. The other central taboos involve what to publish (it needs to be right) and

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Cultural Chasm

The gap between civilian and military cultures is as old as democracy itself.

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Heavyweight

G.M. Remember them? They make cars.

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Chaos Without Coups

Soldiers in Asia have been staying out of politics.

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The Nation

An Army as Good as Its People, and Vice Versa

By DAVID STOUT

MORE and more these days, there is talk about the cultural chasm between the military and the rest of society, what most people consider the "real world." Some people want to narrow that divide, as though it is something new, and bad. Several months ago, an assistant Army Secretary had to resign after calling the Marine Corps a bunch of "extremists" who faced the risk of "total disconnection with society."

And the Pentagon, having been ridiculed and reviled for treating adultery in the military as a crime (and, many feel, for punishing women more harshly than men who stray), is looking for new ways to handle that ancient transgression — classifying it as a less serious crime, say, even regarding it as a personal matter unless it plays havoc with discipline.

Praetorian Guards

The separation between civilian and military is as old as democracy itself, based on the fear that a latter-day Praetorian Guard might assert itself over the people it is supposed to serve. That demarcation line may be blurred in time of war, when the military's ranks are filled, after all, by the sons and daughters of democracy, but it exists nonetheless.

The Government is master and the military is its servant. That is why President Harry S. Truman's sacking of Gen. Douglas MacArthur over the conduct of the Korean War has stood the test of history. And that is probably why efforts to close the gap invariably put pressure on the military to be more like civilian society, not the other way around.

"Most people do not want to have a military that is run on a set of values that is so divorced from the civilian world that its members come from that they can no longer relate to each other," William C. Fredericks, chairman of the New York City bar's Committee on Military Affairs and Justice, said recently.

At least most people don't want that kind of military until there's a war.

"The real danger is not that Amer-



Pentagon efforts to relax adultery rules have focused attention on a gap between military and civilian cultures. Saluting the Tomb of the Unknowns.

ica and its military will grow too far apart — it is that they will grow too close together," John Hillen, who studies national-security issues for the Council on Foreign Relations, a research organization, wrote recently in *The New York Times*.

It is one thing, probably a good thing, to have a military force that looks like the society it protects in terms of skin color, geographical backgrounds and so on. Dr. Hillen said last week. But it is a bad thing to have a military that shares all that society's values, said Dr. Hillen, who saw combat as an Army captain in the Persian Gulf war.

Close-cropped hair, marching and saluting, living without privacy, obey-

ing orders instantly to avoid the wrath of the sergeant or chief petty officer — all the things that millions of soldiers, sailors, marines and airmen have endured across the decades in peace and war — are part of what Dr. Hillen called "the sum total of military culture."

Fear's the Thing

Is that culture good or bad, a success or a failure? In his view, the answer is simple, even primitive. "It depends on whether a group of scared 18-year-olds run when they're first shot at," he said. "If they run, the culture has failed." Failed, he added, at the only thing that justifies the

military culture's existence.

Another defender of the old-fashioned military culture is Elaine Donnelly, president of the conservative-oriented Center for Military Readiness, which supports separating men and women during basic training and opposes combat roles for women.

"We shouldn't be running the military like a college campus," she said last week. She was scornful of those generals and admirals who, she said, believe deeply that recent relaxation of traditions in the military is dead wrong but are afraid to say so.

In some instances, military people have been found to be proudly disdainful of the very countrymen whom they are sworn to defend. In his book

"Making the Corps," Thomas E. Ricks writes that, having endured Marine Corps boot camp, newly minted marines find themselves suddenly contemptuous of the "soft" civilian society they were so recently part of. (It is probably no coincidence that the Marines Corps is resisting more strongly than the other services the Pentagon proposal to change policies toward adultery.)

Failure to Communicate

The cultural divide between military and civilian is regarded as serious enough that it has attracted the attention of politicians, fewer and fewer of whom have served in the

military. Defense Secretary William S. Cohen, like President Clinton a non-veteran, has expressed concern. So have Senators John McCain, Republican of Arizona, and Charles S. Robb, Democrat of Virginia, both veterans of Vietnam War combat.

"With less interaction between the civilian and military cultures, we're going to have progressively less understanding of one another," Senator Robb said. One reason there is less interaction, of course, is that military service has not been an obligation for a quarter-century — a fact that Dr. Hillen laments.

The answer, he said, is not to get rid of the gap but to recognize it and "manage it." The existence of the gap

The military is like society, sort of. That's why there's a culture gap.

causes social friction, he said. Closing it, by making the military and civilian worlds more alike, could cause a loss on the battlefield.

The cultural divide has existed since the time of the Founding Fathers. "The spirit of this country is totally adverse to a large military force," Thomas Jefferson wrote in 1807.

Douglas MacArthur might have been talking to himself (instead of writing in a journal) when he said in 1927 that "a warlike spirit, which alone can create and civilize a state, is absolutely essential to national defense and to national perpetuity."

No one was listening in the Jazz Age, when the American military was being reduced to a skeleton. His florid language notwithstanding, no one would have laughed 15 years later.

Jefferson, too, changed his views. "We must train and classify the whole of our male citizens and make military instruction a regular part of collegiate education," he wrote in 1813, when the United States was fighting Britain. "We can never be safe till this is done."

War does change perspectives.

Living Large

Forget Microsoft. G.M. Is Still the Biggest Kid on the Block.

By KEITH BRADSHAW

TO appreciate the size of General Motors, consider this: If the Microsoft Corporation were a G.M. auto parts division, William H. Gates would be just another G.M. vice president that nobody has ever heard of.

A quarter-century of shrinking market share and periodic financial crises at G.M. have fed a popular image of the auto maker as a shadow of its former self. Yet G.M. remains the world's largest company in sales and share of global economic output, and is immense by any standard. Growth in the entire American economy has been slowed substantially by eight-week-old strikes here that have paralyzed the auto maker's North American operations.

In 1970, before rising gasoline prices and increased imports of Japanese cars began to take a toll, G.M.'s operations in the United States accounted for 2.3 percent of the nation's economic output, according to the Com-

merce Department. Last year, G.M. still produced about 1.5 percent of the nation's goods and services, dwarfing every other company except Ford, with about 1.2 percent. Microsoft, by comparison, accounted for about 0.1 percent.

G.M.'s North American automotive assembly and marketing division alone still has roughly the same annual revenues as the worldwide operations of all American passenger airlines combined.

Nonetheless, Microsoft has replaced G.M. as the titan that sometimes seems to tower over American industry. Computer software has replaced the car as the American product that captures the public's imagination here and around the world. Antitrust regulators now ignore G.M., with its 31 percent share of the American car market, and have sued Microsoft, challenging its 90 percent share of the much smaller market for operating software that makes computers run.

Microsoft's share price has also soared, seizing the attention of a public in love with the stock market. G.M.'s stock, on the other hand, has only recently returned to its price in the mid-1960's — and has plunged

The stock market may yawn, but General Motors casts a big shadow on the economy.

if inflation is included. The combined value of Microsoft's shares is now nearly six times the value of G.M.'s shares. Yet G.M.'s 1997 revenue of \$178 billion was 15 times greater than Microsoft's.

The stock market is captivated these days not by a company's size but by its expected future earnings. Trapped in a fiercely competitive market and fettered by expensive union contracts and costly strikes, G.M. seems less attractive than Microsoft, which faces little effective competition and little risk of strikes.

But a company's contribution to the economy is not determined by its share price. A country's economic

output is calculated from total sales to the final users of goods and products. Microsoft's sales are tiny compared with those of G.M. because its most popular programs sell for about \$90 apiece, while G.M.'s cars and light trucks sell for an average of \$20,000 each.

Some companies have tried to argue that they play a greater role in the economy than their sales might suggest. Software companies contend that their products improve the productivity of millions of Americans. The United Parcel Service claimed during a strike last year that every day it delivered packages with a value equal to nearly 6 percent of the nation's daily economic output.

G.M. executives, living in a state where the auto industry's preeminence is taken for granted, do not even bother pointing out that cars and trucks also play a role in moving people and goods around. Having typically worked all their lives for a company that has led the world in sales through much of its 90-year history, the executives simply shrug and smile when other companies brag about their size.

A Global Colossus That Is Richer Than Most Nations

A troubled giant in an industry that has lost some of its glamour, General Motors receives less public attention than many smaller companies. Yet it remains the world's largest company in sales and share of global economic output. When strikes shut down its North American operations, as has happened for the past month, the entire American economy feels the blow.

THE WORLD'S BIGGEST COMPANY ...

The revenues of the world's biggest corporations and six other selected companies, with their global rank and number of employees, in 1997.

Company (rank)	Revenue	Employees
G.M. (1)	\$178 billion	698,000
Ford (2)		364,000
Mitsui (3)		40,000
Mitsubishi (4)		36,000
Shell (5)		105,000
Wal-Mart (8)		825,000
G.E. (12)		276,000
AT&T (32)		128,000
Boeing (39)		239,000
Intel (125)		64,000
Microsoft (400)		22,000

... PRODUCES MORE THAN MANY NATIONS ...

G.M.'s revenue and the gross domestic product of 10 nations, ranked globally in 1997.

Nation (rank)	G.D.P.
Sweden (20)	
Austria (21)	
Indonesia (22)	
Thailand (23)	
Turkey (24)	
G.M. Revenue	173
Denmark (25)	
Norway (26)	
Hong Kong (27)	
Poland (28)	
Saudi Arabia (29)	

... BUT THE MARKET IS UNIMPRESSED.

The total value of the stock of the world's most valuable companies, as of Thursday.

Company (rank)	Stock value
G.E. (1)	
Microsoft (2)	
Coca-Cola (3)	
Exxon (4)	
Merck (5)	
Wal-Mart (6)	
Pfizer (7)	
Nippon Telephone and Telegraph (8)	
Intel (9)	
Lucent Technologies (10)	
G.M. (66)	47

HOW MICROSOFT STACKS UP

Microsoft's annual revenue is dwarfed by that of some G.M. divisions.

Division	Revenue*
North American auto assembly and marketing	\$109.3 billion
Overseas auto assembly and marketing	35.7
Worldwide auto parts	26.3
Hughes Electronics	17.7
Auto financing	12.6
Microsoft's 1997 revenue	11.4

*Total exceeds overall sales because most auto part sales are to G.M. assembly plants. Figures also exclude smaller divisions, like the production of locomotives and heavy vehicle transmissions.

Sources: Fortune; World Bank; Morgan Stanley Capital International; company reports

The World

The Latest Asian Miracle: Chaos Without Coups

By JOSEPH KAHN

NO one is celebrating the first anniversary of Asia's financial crisis. With most of its economies shrinking, unemployment hitting new highs and recovery perhaps several years away, who would?

Yet in the 12 months since the Thai baht fell against the United States dollar and touched off currency devaluations and a slump in every major East Asian country, at least one of the region's stubborn old ghosts has been exorcised. There have been no military coups.

Thailand has led the way there, too. For the first time since the country adopted a parliamentary government 66 years ago, its army has stood by and allowed civilians to handle the economy. Behind the parapets of the elite 11th Army Command's headquarters in Bangkok, soldiers are teaching the jobless to knit and to type.

Armies that were once domineering are now content to serve.

"The coup d'état is outdated," said Gen. Chetta Thamajaro, Thailand's commander in chief of the army, in an interview in Bangkok. "The more time passes, the more it is obsolete. My soldiers must stay completely out of politics."

That attitude appears to be widespread, except for Indonesia, where the army played a quiet but important role in forcing former President Suharto from power in May. There have been no ominous ripples in the Philippines or in South Korea, countries where military intervention has been common. The sudden severity of the economic collapse, analysts say, has befuddled the military leaders as much as it has politicians and business executives. Even if Thai or Indonesian armies were predisposed to take power themselves, they might find global currency traders and democratically elected political leaders illusive scapegoats. They would also lack a clear-cut agenda after intervening.

"A decade ago, many of the region's militaries

would likely have felt that they had the answers, and that might well have involved them taking over," said Harold Crouch, a military expert at Australia National University. "But these economic troubles are complex, global matters that are well beyond them. So they defer to the technocrats."

That back-seat role has helped politicians enact unpopular reforms, including high interest rates that punish borrowers in the name of monetary stability. Civilian leaders also have slashed military budgets, canceled new weapons purchases and forced military-backed companies to sink or swim in the marketplace. Opposition leaders in both Thailand and South Korea have come to power recently vowing to sever the cozy ties between government and business that have formed under military rule.

Many East Asian militaries — those of Singapore and Malaysia are notable exceptions — grew accustomed to aggressive political roles when fighting colonialism and communism. Those in Thailand, Indonesia and South Korea, which have been hardest hit during the latest economic crisis, once invoked martial control over everything. In the 1960's South Korea's generals designed an economic model centered on heavy industry, and it flourished during the 26 years of army rule that ended in 1987. Indonesia's military retains political and economic powers that rival those of the civilian Government, and has its hands in big business and trade monopolies. In Thailand, generals sit on the boards of many large publicly listed companies, and the military controls a leading bank and several television and radio stations.

Although communist North Korea is still a threat, most of the old enemies in Asia have been vanquished, which has forced the militaries to redefine their roles in a process that the economic crisis has only accelerated, analysts say. The result is a less exalted sense of purpose and a grudging acceptance of the non-political professionalism practiced in American and European militaries.

"The army is being treated as a servant instead of the master," said Panitan Wattanayagorn, a military affairs adviser to the Thai Prime Minister, Chuan Leekpai. "We ask them, 'Why do you need money for this or that?' They don't like it, but they are accepting it."

Few expected the once coup-happy Thai military to be so at ease. Almost as soon as Thailand's currency lost its grip against the dollar last summer, Bangkok filled with rumors of an imminent army takeover. It seemed



Thai soldiers are staying out of politics. In February in Bangkok, they helped jobless women learn to sew.

almost predestined: The military has ousted civilian leaders and assumed power 17 times since 1932, most recently in 1991. Political or economic woes were usually given as the justification.

The military has not only accepted its diminished role, but also supported tough austerity measures. General Chetta said the army has already slashed its ranks by about 10 percent. "But I could cut up to 30 percent of active troops," he said. "Even 50 percent if the Government needs me to." Similar retrenchment has hit the air force and the navy.

Army generals have marched through public parks in sneakers and sport shirts to lead the "Thai Help Thai" charity campaign. The effort has raised several million dollars by collecting gold and dollars. "We want to instill the feeling of sacrifice and responsibility in the Thai people — let them know that these are problems they themselves must help solve," General Chetta said.

The Thai army's willingness to play a supporting role is not altruism. The disastrous 1991 coup caused a popular uprising in 1992, which troops brutally suppressed. The army has been struggling to improve its image ever since.

Similar debacles have befallen the South Korean and Filipino armies. In Seoul, two former army generals and Presidents, Chun Doo Hwan and Roh Tae Woo, were convicted of murder and corruption charges. Their

abuse of power and tolerance of endemic corruption are widely cited as leading to the current economic troubles. Six coup attempts against Corazon Aquino, the former Philippines President, so embarrassed the military there that few predict it will try again soon. The current democratically elected President, Joseph Estrada, is a former B-movie star who must tackle the country's growing economic woes without any practical experience.

"Almost any recent military intervention you can name was a disaster," Mr. Crouch said. "The idea of army leadership has been discredited."

Still, Thailand's most powerful people do not all wear civvies. General Chetta has gained political clout by forswearing the military option, and he struts proudly on the public stage. Whether receiving the Finance Minister for an economic briefing, or supporting Thailand's new constitution, the general seems to relish a role as peacekeeping elder statesman.

And while General Chetta brushes off questions about his ambitions, his denial is short of Shermanesque. "It is not necessary for me to be a minister," he said, his eyes sparkling and a smile peeking through his stoic expression. "I will serve society however I can."

Army colleagues say the general covets public office. But it is a sign of change in Thailand that he seems determined to win it through the ballot box.

In Journalism, Scoops, Crimes

(Continued from page 9)

when (before anyone else, if possible). But when it comes to how to report, "That's one of the glories and the pitfalls of a free press," said Michael G. Gartner, the editor of The Tribune in Ames, Iowa, and a former president of NBC News. "There is no line imposed on any of us except the line of the law," he said.

Questions about the origin and highly classified status of the Pentagon Papers didn't keep The New York Times and The Washington Post from publishing them in 1971. In fact, The Times was awarded a Pulitzer Prize for public service.

Ethical Swamps

"It's our job to gather up as much information as possible and then make the hard decisions about what to print and not to print," said Mr. Weinberg, of the University of Missouri. Methods may seem seamy if the issue is finding a film star on vacation, but less so if the issue is a major corporate polluter endangering the health of a community.

Still, as reporters navigate the ethical swamps, collecting tidbits from detectives or spies, they may forget that swamps give off a smell. Stolen documents produce public-service journalism. Now explain that to the public. But stolen documents seldom give journalists pause. "The first question is their authenticity," said Lowell Bergman, senior investigative producer at CBS. "There are real questions if the documents violate someone's privacy, or are important merely because they're titillating," he added. "But you have a duty to look at them."

Criminal records are another matter. "It's illegal for me or you to pay a cop to run a record" through the National Crime Information Center's records, said a former journalist who is now a private investigator, and who spoke on the condition of anonymity. "But if, as a reporter, you have a cop who checks whether so-and-so had a criminal record and you don't pay him, is that legal or illegal?"

Risky Subterfuge

What about using hidden cameras? "It's a case by case," said Don Hewitt, the creator and executive producer of "60 Minutes." "It's getting to look like a stunt." Breaking laws? "It was illegal in China for us to go into slave labor camps with a hidden camera, which we did. It didn't pain me to put that on camera."

The use of hidden cameras by ABC News in a report on food handling at a Food Lion supermarket, coupled with the producers' decision to lie on employment forms, led to a 1996 jury

verdict against the network. An appeal is pending. "ABC truly believed that what they did was justified because bad food could be coming out of there," said Jane Kirtley, executive director of the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press. "But the public didn't see it that way at all."

With libel hard to prove, lawsuits are likely to focus on reporters' tactics. A Maine trucking company won a case against NBC this month when a jury found the producer and correspondent did not honor assurances that the report would be favorable. And a Federal judge in Ohio must decide a charge of misrepresentation against Business Week, whose reporter requested data from a credit information firm, giving his true employer but indicating that he sought the data for "employment" reasons.

Whatever the risks of journalistic subterfuge, reporting is not getting any easier. Information once public is shielded by privacy laws or just plain privatized. Many state governments are charging hefty fees for access to motor vehicle and other records that were once virtually free. The number of confidentiality agreements involving business deals and legal settlements has grown exponentially, some lawyers say (though by definition it is impossible to know).

The Secrecy Pledge

It was the confidentiality agreement between Jeffrey Wigand and the Brown & Williamson Tobacco Corporation that led CBS lawyers to insist that "60 Minutes" pull back its interview with the former research chief in 1995. The lawyers said that getting Mr. Wigand's cooperation could be seen as "tortious interference" in company affairs. Fear of contract violation overcame the urge to publish, until The Wall Street Journal jumped into the fray and CBS broadcast its report in early 1996.

The best-known Supreme Court case upholding confidentiality agreements came two decades ago, when the court ruled that Frank Snepp, a senior C.I.A. staff member in Vietnam, had violated his agreement with the agency by publishing his book "Decent Interval" without prior review. Since then, "the universe of potential bases for suing journalists has expanded," said Ms. Kirtley, of the reporters committee.

With the rise of computerized databases, not to mention an Internet culture that deems all information free, further controls may be on the way. In this new climate, Mr. Bergman recommends forthrightness, mostly. "The basic line is to be upfront and be honest," he said. "There's almost no reason to deceive anyone about anything." But he added, "You don't have to tell someone everything."

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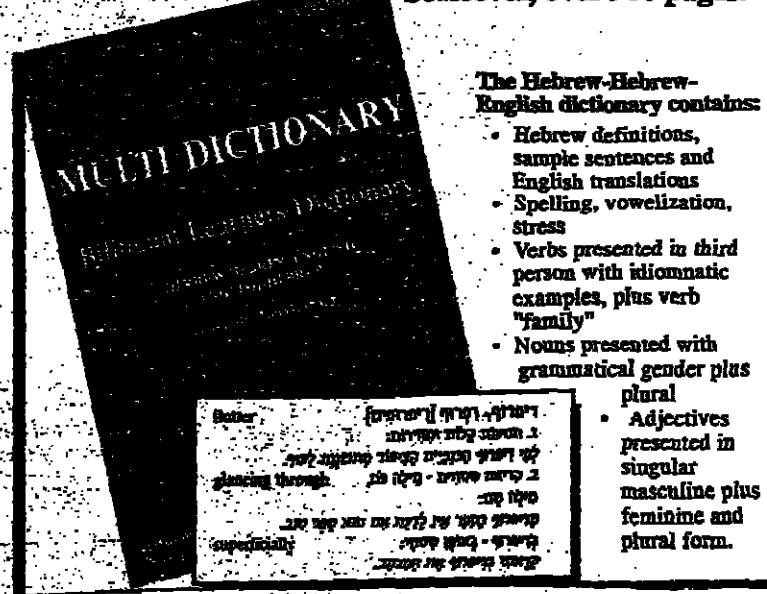
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Ideas & Trends

Medicine Lags Against Addiction

By DENISE GRADY

MAYOR RUDOLPH W. GIULIANI'S pronouncement last week that New York City should abolish methadone treatment for heroin addicts by the year 2000 drew fire from many drug-abuse experts. They insist that methadone is the best tool they have to help addicts reduce heroin use, stay out of jail and get back to work. In fact, some said, they wished they had something like it to treat cocaine addiction.

That's some endorsement for a treatment that simply replaces one addictive substance with another. Methadone, a morphine-related drug taken orally to mute an addict's cravings as well as heroin's effect, doesn't even help everyone who tries the treatment. And while it helps others to kick heroin, it often doesn't wean them off drugs completely.

Why, at a time of impressive biomedical progress, is this 30-year-old treatment the best weapon medicine has to offer against addiction?

High Toll

The question isn't academic, given the toll that addiction takes on society. The National Institute on Drug Abuse estimates that there are four million drug addicts in the United States, two million to three million of whom are hooked on cocaine. Another 800,000 are heroin addicts. Millions more, though not addicted, use illegal drugs. According to a recent report by the General Accounting Office, the Government will spend \$3.2 billion in 1998 to treat addicts. Other costs, for prevention, drug-related crime and lost productivity, total more than \$60 billion a year.

But there has been a notable lack of progress in developing new treatments for addiction, and a big reason is money, acknowledges Dr. Alan Leshner, director of the institute on drug abuse.

"A lot of it has to do with the fact that the pharmaceutical industry has not seen the treatment of drug addiction as a viable market, until recently," he said. It can cost \$200 million to \$400 million to develop a new drug, he said — the type of outlay that drug companies worry won't be recovered from a market of addicts, who are typically poor and dependent on Medicaid, the Federal insurance program, which limits payments. And there is still "a terrible stigma around addiction," Dr. Leshner added.

"I think some companies didn't want to be associated with it," he said. "Many still don't want to get into this business."

But things have begun to change. In the past decade, Dr. Leshner said, research in neurobiology has identified structures in the brain that might be targets for anti-addiction drugs.

"We have come to understand how every major drug of abuse works in the brain," he said. "We've identified receptors in the brain and cloned them. We know the circuits in the brain that they activate and we know some of the



Weapons against addiction are few: a heroin detoxification pellet offered in New Jersey.

common elements that may relate to the essence of addiction."

Some small drug companies have become interested, both as a result of such advances and because, since the early 1990's, the institute on drug abuse has been collaborating with industry, spending \$100 million a year to help test new drugs to treat addiction.

"Over the next few years you'll see additional medications come out, not only for heroin, but for cocaine and amphetamine addiction as well," Dr. Leshner said. For instance, more than 30 compounds, as well as a vaccine, are being studied as possible weapons against cocaine addiction. "It's a top priority because we have nothing for overdose or addiction to cocaine," Dr. Leshner said.

'Frustration'

Dr. George Bigelow, a professor in the department of psychiatry and behavioral sciences at Johns Hopkins Medical School in Baltimore, said the antidepressant drug Prozac and related drugs were also being studied to determine whether they might help relieve cocaine addiction.

But Dr. Bigelow added a note of caution. "A lot of things have been studied for cocaine, and nothing has yet been identified that's clearly effective," he said. "It has been a real frustration."

Much of the research, Dr. Bigelow said, has focused on dopamine, a brain chemical that plays an important role in movement, thought, emotion

and addiction. Dopamine is a neurotransmitter, a molecule released by one brain cell to signal another. Many drugs of abuse, including cocaine, amphetamines, opiates, marijuana and nicotine, act on a dopamine system that runs along the base of the brain. Activating that system by taking drugs can provoke feelings of intense pleasure.

Dr. Bigelow said there was a potential problem with drugs that target the dopamine system. "It might be the final common pathway for all kinds of rewarding things, food and sex and the joys of music and art," he said. "So it's probably not a pathway we want to eliminate. We need to find a way to block cocaine and let people enjoy other rewards."

And even if the action of cocaine can be blocked so that people no longer get high from it, that may not take care of the cravings that former users feel, often for many years even after they have quit.

"One thing that makes addiction so difficult is that there is a big learning basis, and we don't have any way of making it go away," Dr. Bigelow said. "People learn to get high by using drugs, and they never forget the experience. It's a burden that addicts carry for life."

"To me, that's one of the strongest arguments for prevention, and for avoiding even experimental use," he said, "because you risk having experiences that you don't forget and that continue to control and manipulate you in ways you do not want."

The N.E.A. Tries A Little Self-Help

By IRVIN MOLOTSKY

FOR an agency that spends less than 0.01 percent of the Federal budget, the National Endowment for the Arts gets a lot of attention from Congress, particularly negative attacks from conservatives. But last week the House of Representatives overwhelmingly approved the agency's money for next year.

"I think the vote reflects that, with the implementation of last year's reforms, members of the House are feeling more comfortable with the N.E.A. and its role in reaching out to communities across the nation," said Representative Ralph Regula, an Ohio Republican who shepherded the spending bill. One reform required grant applicants to provide precise information on projects.

The House action was a turnaround. Many of the Republicans who rode to office and helped take control of the House in 1994 campaigned on a promise to abolish the arts agency, charging that it had given grants for obscene works like a crucifix in a container of urine and homoerotic photos. The Government, critics said, had no business being in the arts. The Republicans succeeded in cutting the agency's spending sharply, but not in eliminating the agency.

By a vote of 253 to 173, the

House approved \$88 million, with 58 Republicans crossing over to join 184 Democrats and one independent. The margin was so surprisingly large that agency officials, for the first time since cutbacks began, say they are optimistic about increasing that amount next year. The local citizens involved in these programs frequently are community leaders who can get the ear of their members of Congress.

There were several reasons for the reversal. By largely cutting back on huge grants to large institutions, the agency was able to spread more of its money around. "Some smaller and mid-size organizations actually got more money last year," said Cherie Simon, a spokeswoman for the agency.

The Eugene Symphony in Oregon, for example, had its grant increased from \$10,000 in 1997 to \$15,000 this year, while the Teatro Avante in Florida went from \$35,000 to \$37,500. Though not large amounts, the grants are important to small groups, which can cite them in soliciting local contributions.

Congress mandated the requirement that applicants describe their arts project in greater detail to reduce the chances of grants going astray and subsidizing, for instance, a performance artist best known for smearing herself with chocolate, as it once did.



"The Street of Crocodiles" at Lincoln Center in New York City.

Curse of the South: Behind American Homicide

Continued from page 9

rural areas, said Richard Nisbett, a professor of psychology at the University of Michigan. In analyzing homicide data for whites, Professor Nisbett found there was no difference in murder rates between white males in the largest cities in the South and the rest of the country. But in medium-sized cities, with populations between 50,000 and 200,000, Southern white males commit murder at a rate twice that of their counterparts in the rest of the nation, he said. In small cities, with populations from 10,000 to 50,000, the ratio is 3 to 1 and in rural areas it is 4 to 1. The excess murder in the South, he said, comes from crimes "where you could plausibly say an insult had been involved."

Professor Nisbett devised a psychological test, administered to students at the University of Michigan, that appears to demonstrate a Southern sensitivity to insult and disposition to violence. In the test, a person unexpectedly bumps into a subject as he walks down a corridor, and calls him a jerk. Out-of-state white male students from the South, even pre-med students, tend to react with anger and show measurable increases in levels of testosterone and cortisol, hormones that indicate stress. White Northern males typically respond by laughing the incident off and do not show the same hormonal reactions, Professor Nisbett said.

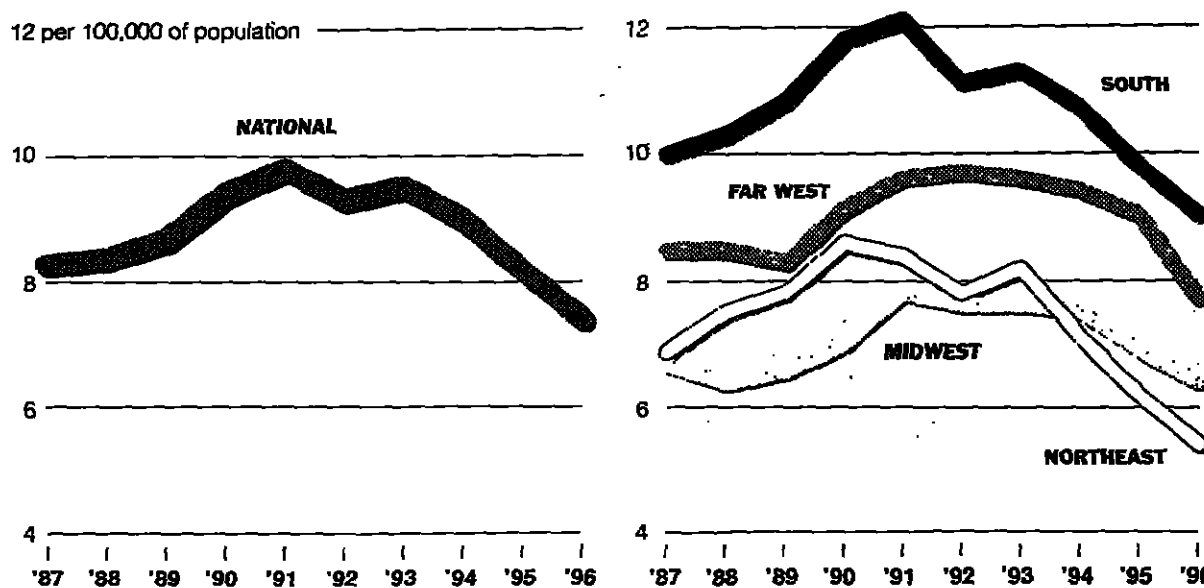
In the view of historians, traditional Southern influences and attitudes help explain Louisiana's ranking as the state with by far the highest homicide rate. Before the Civil War, Louisiana had the most brutal conditions for slavery, in large part because it was the one state where sugar cane was grown, and cane production is particularly harsh work.

In addition, said Samuel Hyde Jr., a historian at Southeastern Louisiana University, eastern Louisiana was in a state of near anarchy for most of the 19th century, a result of its pinewoods isolation, lack of political authority and vicious guerrilla fighting during the Civil War. Professor Hyde, the author of "Pistols and Politics" (Louisiana State University Press, 1996), relates how his own great-grandfather, Samuel Hyde, a sawmill owner and postmaster in rural Tangipahoa Parish, survived being shot in the back on two different occasions as a result of a local feud — only to be fatally ambushed in 1897 while on horseback, hit in the back by 36 buckshot, with another rifle slug in the back of his head.

Professor Hyde remembers his father and uncle passing on the story to him when he was 13. His grandfather, the slain man's son, eventually avenged the killing by shooting the assassins' ringleader. "I have felt like I dishonored my family, Professor Hyde said, "because I am the only one who never killed anyone."

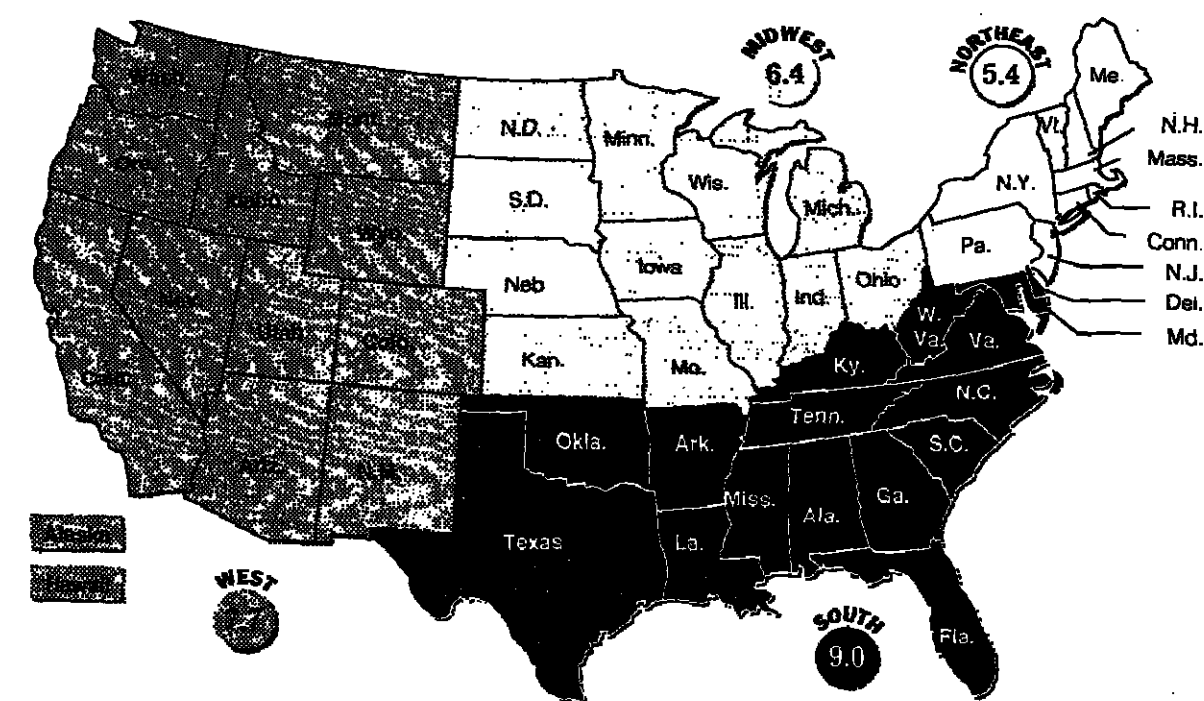
The Southern States Still Have the Highest Murder Rates

ACROSS THE NATION, MURDER RATES HAVE DROPPED ...



... BUT ARE STILL HIGHER IN THE SOUTH THAN IN OTHER REGIONS

The FBI divides the nation into four regions: the Northeast, the South, the Midwest and the West. Here are the states in each region and the regional homicide rates in 1996.



THE HOMICIDE RATE IN 1996, STATE BY STATE

Twelve of the 20 states with the highest murder rates per 100,000 of population are in the South.

Louisiana	17.9
Nevada	11.6
Maryland	11.1
New Mexico	10.4
Mississippi	10.4
Alabama	10.4
Illinois	9.5
Tennessee	9.5
California	9.0
S. Carolina	8.7
Arkansas	8.6
Georgia	8.6
N. Carolina	8.5
Arizona	8.1
Missouri	7.7
Texas	7.7
Florida	7.5
Virginia	7.5
Michigan	7.4
New York	7.4
Alaska	7.2
Indiana	6.8
Oklahoma	6.8
Kansas	6.8
Kentucky	6.8
Pennsylvania	5.7
Connecticut	4.8
Ohio	4.8
Colorado	4.3
Washington	4.3
Delaware	4.3
New Jersey	4.2
Oregon	4.0
Wisconsin	4.0
Montana	3.6
W. Virginia	3.6
Idaho	3.6
Minnesota	3.6
Hawaii	3.6
Wyoming	3.6
Utah	3.6
Nebraska	2.9
Massachusetts	2.6
Rhode Island	2.5
N. Dakota	2.2
Maine	2.0
Iowa	1.9
Vermont	1.9
New Hampshire	1.7
S. Dakota	1.2

Source: FBI

The New York Times

What Companies Need to Know Is in the Pizza Dough

By CONSTANCE L. HAYS

As empires crumble and technology pushes ever forward, some things remain unavoidable.

There's death, and taxes. And then there's pizza.

Americans' consumption of pizza is at a record high, market researchers say, trailing only soft drinks, burgers and fries among foods ordered in restaurants.

More to the point, some of the most enduring business lessons — applicable to everyone from Warren E. Buffett to the lemonade-stand proprietor — can be extracted from the ups and downs of the pizza industry, a \$21.8 billion business.

Pizza, after all, is at once a global commodity and a local enterprise.

Interested in maximizing your share of the pie? Consider what the executives of some of the leading pizza makers — Papa John's, Pizza Hut, Domino's, California Pizza Kitchen, DiGiorno and Telepizza — have picked up.

Papa John's

Keep Things Simple and Certain

Obsession is the byword at Papa John's International, one of the country's fastest-growing restaurant

chains. Its founder, chairman and chief executive, John H. Schnatter, can be counted on to pop into his restaurants without notice, checking on the cheese, the sauce, the shape and quality of the crust. And to blow his stack if any aspect falls short. Five top executives, including the president, quit over an 18-month period in 1994 and 1995, all complaining about his management style.

The company saw the departures as "the natural evolution of a high-growth company," according to a spokesman, and today's top officials make no apologies about being relentless.

"Our strategy is to have better ingredients and better pizza, and if we're going to live up to that, we have to be fanatical," said Blaine Hurst, vice chairman and president of the company, which is based in Louisville, Ky.

At the heart of the corporate strategy is keeping operations and offerings uncomplicated. At most Papa John's restaurants, you can get two kinds of pizza — thin crust, or regular — with various toppings, of course. That has propelled the company into fourth place among pizza restaurants, with a 4.1 percent share.

"They have done a great job, coming out of nowhere," said Mitchell Speiser, an analyst with Lehman Brothers who considers Papa John's the biggest threat to Pizza Hut, the industry leader. "They focus on the tradition and quality of their one pie."

The company projects that restaurant sales will top \$1 billion this year. Profit margins are about 18 percent, compared with 11.5 percent for Pizza Hut and 15 percent for the fast-food industry in general, Mr. Speiser said.

Still, as the chain has grown — there are now 1,690 restaurants, up from 400 just five years ago, when the company went public — management's ability to keep its intensity has become more complicated, in part because of rapid turnover of restaurant workers.

To keep up the intensity, Papa John's has a mantra, conveyed through publications and exhortations, that centers on a set of core principles: focus, accountability, superiority, attitude, improvement and "Papa," which, with a little imagination, stands for "People Are Our No. 1 Priority Always."

Pizza Hut

Turning Workers Into Owners

With 22.2 percent of the restaurant pizza business, twice as much as its closest competitor, Pizza Hut is unquestionably the pizza sales leader. But the chain, based in Dallas, has seen high turnover not only among its hourly workers — a problem that affects the entire industry — but also among general managers, the people in charge of making daily operations flow smoothly. Then a company-owned store or franchise has to start over, with all the elaborate and costly training that the chain's complicated operations require.

To stem the turnover, Pizza Hut two months ago began awarding stock options to managers.

Initially, managers receive options for \$20,000 in stock, issued at a set price, usually below market on the day of the grant. The options cannot be exercised for four years, a requirement intended to bind employees to the company. After the initial \$20,000 grant, managers' option awards will vary, depending on their restaurants' performance.

"If someone stays in a restaurant for 25 years and can grow it at a good rate, he or she could walk away with a million dollars if the stock does well," said Michael Rawlings, the president and "chief concept officer" of Pizza Hut. "If we can unleash the power of the folks working in the restaurants, we're going to be light-years ahead."

Domino's

Learning Lessons In Local Markets

For Domino's Pizza, taking the successful formula that made it the No. 2 pizza company and transplanting it overseas seemed the obvious way to grow in the mid-1980's, when Ronald Reagan was presiding over "Morning in America" and people in other countries were perceived to be clamoring for all things American.

But the privately held company, based in Ann Arbor, Mich., stumbled badly, executives now acknowledge. Their mistake, they say, was awarding the first few overseas franchises — in countries like Australia and Germany — to people with proven track records in American cities like Dayton, Ohio.

The franchisees, trained under Thomas Monaghan, Domino's hard-charging founder, were innocents abroad. They did not know such basics as how to lease or buy real estate outside the United States, nor did they understand local preferences in pizza. To complicate matters, they continued to own stores back home, so they tried to manage their off-shore outlets by long distance. For a cash business that needed hands-on attention, it was a recipe for failure.

After most of a decade, Domino's figured out a better way, said Gary McCausland, managing director of Domino's Pizza International. Instead of "parachuting in the Tom Monaghan guys," he said, the company went searching for home-grown Monaghans.

The new master franchisees started with plenty of knowledge about how to operate a business in their home countries and needed only to be

trained in the details of running a Domino's.

"We found out it's easier to teach someone from Australia the Domino's system than it is to teach the guys from Dayton how to make pizzas in Australia," Mr. McCausland said.

The company now has about 1,600 stores in 80 countries outside the United States, up from 684 in a handful of countries in 1993. And the intelligence provided by local operators appears to be making a difference.

In Tokyo, for instance, Domino's is selling \$20 million worth a year of mayojaga pizza, a bacon-and-onion pie that is finished with slices of potato and dribbles of mayonnaise. Such a combination could well have taken American operators a lot longer to put on the menu.

In England, Domino's sells a lot of pizza topped with canned corn and canned tuna. And in Iceland, the franchise holder decided to market directly to drive-in theatergoers. Delivery people roam the parking area, calling in orders over their cellular phones for delivery in time for intermission.

Domino's earlier missteps were not a result of "arrogance, so much as ignorance about how you build a global brand," Mr. McCausland said. "And it was lack of knowledge about how to respect the different consumer preferences. The biggest mistake U.S. companies make is, we come in and say, 'Let me show you how we do this in Ann Arbor.' We're not shy, and we sometimes force ourselves on people. In a lot of cultures, that's offensive."

California Pizza

Calculated Growth And a New Partner

In 1992, Rick Rosenfield and Larry Flax, the founders of California Pizza Kitchen, figured that teaming up with PepsiCo and all its knowledge of the food business was a sure way to take their business to the next level.

They quickly changed their minds. The two men had been fastidious in expanding the high-end pizza chain they established in 1985, opening only in affluent, fast-growing suburbs and urban enclaves.

PepsiCo's purchase of a 66 percent stake promised new marketing muscle and capital for expansion. But the founders lost control of the master plan. "We went from having 25 restaurants to 28 more in 1994," Mr. Rosenfield said. "That didn't give us time to make the kind of disciplined analysis we needed to make."

When PepsiCo announced in 1996 that it was thinking about getting out of the restaurant business, Mr. Flax and Mr. Rosenfield heard about it on the news. "We had an agreement with them that they couldn't sell their shares without our permission," Mr. Rosenfield said — and that gave the founders a chance to go shopping for a new investor.

Their new majority partner, Bruckmann, Rosser, Sherrill & Company, a Manhattan investment group, is letting the two men set the company's expansion pace. And with \$160 million in sales from 80 restaurants in the United States and abroad, nearly all of them company-owned, that pace is now half of what it was in the PepsiCo days.

"We've pulled the plug on franchises for now," Mr. Rosenfield said. "If you get too large as a franchising organization, you lose your nimbleness, and the infrastructure required to supervise franchises can be as large as the one to run your business."

DiGiorno

Brand Awareness, With a Flourish

Want more attention for your product? How about floating a giant, garishly colored hot-air balloon with your logo on it over dozens of American communities? If that doesn't produce the desired result, why not follow consumers directly to the supermarket, parking your mobile pizza free samples?

These are among the higher-profile tactics being used to promote DiGiorno Rising Crust Pizza, a freezer-case product from the Kraft Foods division of Philip Morris.

Somewhere in this brash mix, something is working. Since DiGiorno's start in 1996, sales have spiraled, to \$230 million last year, for a 14.9 percent share of the \$2 billion market for frozen pizza.

"We are trying to break through the clutter in an effective way," said Tom Sampson, vice president for marketing at DiGiorno.

The product is also trying to break through to consumers who might not have been interested in frozen pizza before.

"There was a gap between frozen and carryout or delivery," Mr. Sampson said. "That's what DiGiorno was intended to do — to bridge that gap."

In this case, what it took to get people to walk over that bridge was a ton of publicity — including the sort of spectacle that creates buzz.



Blaine Hurst, above, admits that the managers at Papa John's, where he is vice chairman and president, can be crusty.

"Our chairman's policy," explained Barbara Zabalza, Telepizza's director of investor relations, "is focusing on kids."

Children are drawn in by the company's two-for-one pizza offers and marketing gimmicks, including a magic club that offers children small prizes, usually simple magic tricks, with every order, Miss Zabalza said. The company, based in Madrid, also markets to children by opening its restaurants to birthday parties and with school visits to restaurant kitchens.

The response has been strong. "The club is the biggest membership club in Spain, with three million children enrolled," said Ann Popelka, an analyst with Lehman Brothers in London.

"The whole product is geared toward children, which is very clever," she added, "since the fast-food industry in Spain is still growing and there's no way anyone over 45 would pop down a pizza on the table."

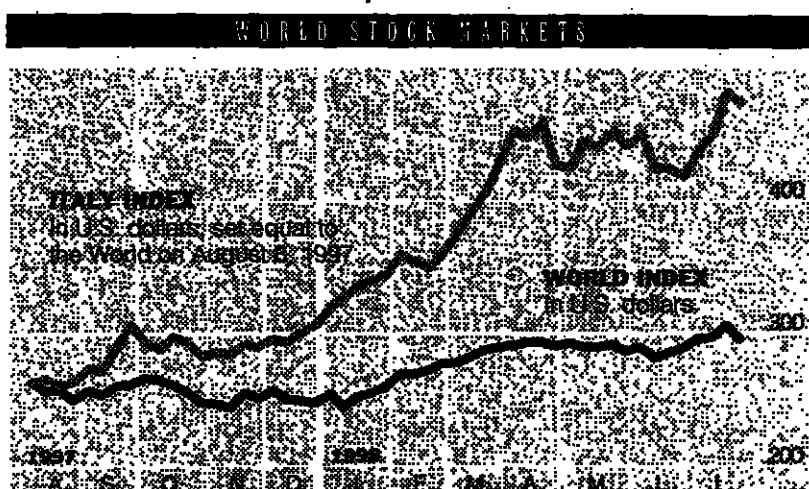
A decade after Mr. Pujals first scanned the competitive environment, Telepizza is sizzling. It has nearly 500 restaurants in Spain, where its market share is 65 percent. It also has a handful of sites in Chile, Poland and Mexico; a somewhat premature international expansion effort was halted in favor of more growth in Spain.

Like Domino's, Telepizza promises delivery within 30 minutes. Like Pizza Hut, it offers wide variety on its menu. Like Papa John's, it says its secret is in quality ingredients.

Like DiGiorno, its marketing is relentless.

The payoff is a stock that now trades at \$9.20 a share in Madrid, up 215 percent in the last year. There's got to be some kind of lesson in that.

Telepizza S.A. There, Pizza Hut's marketing was coming from a central office in Europe that had little idea what would appeal to Spanish consumers.



Prepared by Goldman, Sachs & Co. using data derived from the Financial Times/Standard & Poor's Actuaries World Indices, a measure of stock market performance. The FT indices are compiled jointly by The Financial Times Limited, Goldman, Sachs & Co. and Standard & Poor's, in conjunction with the Institute of Actuaries and Faculty of Actuaries.

Country	IN U.S. DOLLARS				IN LOCAL CURR.			
	Index	Week % Chg.	Week Rank	YTD % Chg.	Index	Week % Chg.	YTD % Chg.	YTD Rank
Australia	196.97	-3.4	16	-1.6	16	3.81	210.84	3.2
Austria	239.84	0.9	2	26.9	10	1.53	221.66	25.5
Belgium	393.32	0.2	3	54.6	2	1.93	355.88	53.1
Brazil	227.64	-4.7	23	-4.5	19	2.09	488.44	-0.3
Britain	382.29	-3.5	17	15.2	14	2.91	341.65	14.3
Canada	222.36	-4.1	20	4.7	15	1.58	241.36	9.7
Denmark	524.04	-2.3	10	17.1	13	1.34	483.25	16.0
Finland	503.71	-2.2	1	80.9	1	1.61	571.66	79.6
France	332.12	-3.4	15	38.8	5	2.03	310.76	37.6
Germany	317.70	-1.5	7	38.5	6	1.13	293.80	37.0
Hong Kong	237.39	-4.7	24	-33.5	26	6.62	236.15	-33.5
Indonesia	32.41	-5.2	26	-51.0	28	2.41	280.33	25.9
Ireland	520.08	-5.4	27	29.5	8	1.87	518.62	30.7
Italy	178.85	-1.6	8	52.0	3	1.25	234.40	50.9
Japan	92.84	-2.5	12	-2.6	17	0.95	82.65	5.5
Malaysia	110.14	-5.7	28	-33.0	25	3.60	174.98	-29.0
Mexico	1,442.94	-4.3	21	-20.0	23	1.95	13,970.79	-12.1
Netherlands	544.61	-1.1	5	32.9	7	1.88	498.45	31.4
New Zealand	64.17	-4.8	25	-16.0	21	4.64	65.51	-6.3
Norway	308.37	-2.2	9	-3.5	18	1.98	315.26	-1.4
Philippines	68.70	-7.3	29	-13.4	20	1.18	144.14	-8.6
Singapore	146.73	-3.5	18	-34.8	27	2.80	115.64	-33.9
South Africa	214.93	-4.6	22	-19.1	22	3.07	290.42	2.9
Spain	404.47	-3.1	14	48.3	4	1.64	462.79	47.5
Sweden	608.01	-2.5	11	29.5	9	1.65	709.80	28.7
Switzerland	451.74	-0.1	4	26.7	11	1.04	400.07	29.8
Thailand	13.27	-15.7	30	-31.3	24	4.36	21.06	-41.6
United States	466.31	-4.0	19	-17.6	12	1.39	466.31	17.6

COMPOSITE INDICES			
Europe	374.02	-2.2	29.4
Pacific Basin	98.40	-2.9	-7.1
Europe/Pacific	213.28	-2.4	17.0
World	295.68	-3.3	16.5

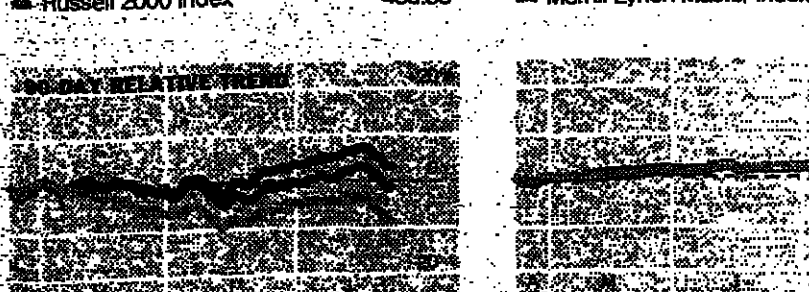
Sources: Goldman, Sachs & Co. Exchange rates as of Friday's London close. © 1998 The Financial Times Ltd., Goldman, Sachs & Co. and Standard & Poor's.

CURRENCIES			
Exchange rate	Friday	Last Friday	Week % Chg.
Japanese yen to the U.S. dollar	141.44	139.47	+1.42
German marks to the U.S. dollar	1.7820	1.7808	+0.07
Canadian dollars to the U.S. dollar	1.4990	1.4885	+0.68
U.S. dollars to the British pound	1.6556	1.6447	+0.66

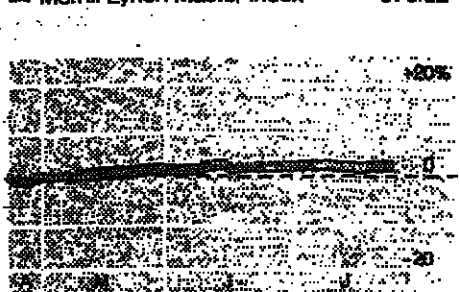
Sources: Bloomberg Financial Markets; exchange rates as of Friday's New York close.

July 20-24: Earnings Worries and Asian Woes Send Stocks Sliding

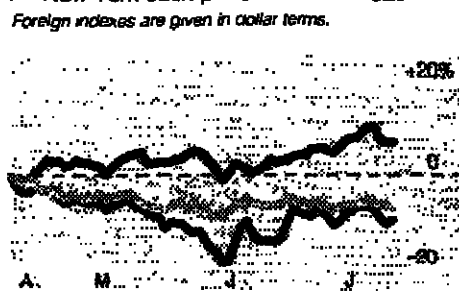
DOMESTIC EQUITIES			
Broad market	Down 3.87%		
S. & P. 500 Index	1,140.80		
Blue chips	Down 4.29%		
Dow 30 Industrials	8,937.36		
Small capitalization	Down 5.14%		
Russell 2000 Index	438.58		



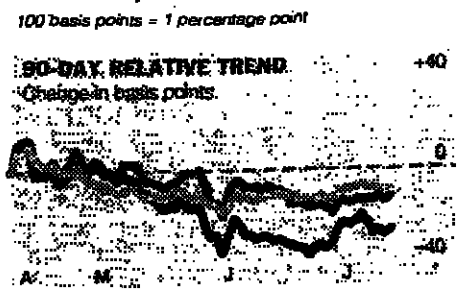
DOMESTIC BONDS			
Treasuries	Up 0.39%		
Ryan Labs Total Return	222.60		
Municipals	Up 0.28%		
Bond Buyer Index	123.69		
Corporates	Up 0.44%		
Merrill Lynch Master Index	978.82		



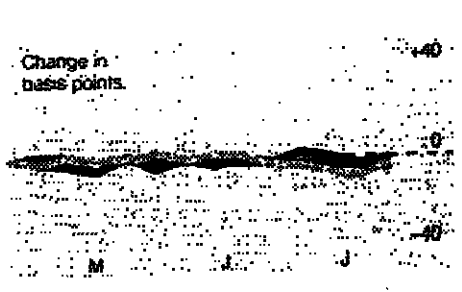
AROUND THE WORLD			
European stocks	Down 2.24%		
F.T.-Actuaries Europe	374.02		
Asian stocks	Down 2.87%		
F.T.-Actuaries Pacific Basin	98.40		
Gold	Down 1.32%		
New York cash price	\$291.20		



YIELDS			
Long bonds	5.68%		
30-year Treasuries	Down 6 basis pts.		
Notes	5.46%		
2-year Treasuries	Up 2 basis pts.		
Municipals	5.25%		
Bond Buyer Index	Down 2 basis pts.		



OTHER INVESTMENTS			
Money market funds	5.00%		
Taxable average	Up 1 basis pt.		
Bank C.D.'s	4.93%		
1-year small savers	Down 1 basis pt.		
Stocks	1.40%		
S. & P. 500 dividend yield	Up 5 b.p.		



The New York Times

Founded in 1851

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Republican Infighting

People who wondered what the Republican Party would use for an agenda once the Contract With America faded into the history of political flapdoodle may now have their answer. The party's two historical wings — the corporate pro-business faction and the populist social conservatives — seem inclined to spend eternity canceling out each other's proposals. Voter pressures make that unwise. But it makes for a good show.

For a long time, the Republicans have been split into two camps, one obsessing about abortion and family values, the other fixated on the capital-gains tax. But lately they have seemed particularly short on common ground. Last week the Senate bowed to the concerns of businesses with markets overseas and killed a bill dear to social conservatives' hearts, which would require the Government to take action against countries that countenance religious persecution. But meanwhile, the House leaders, in their attempts to placate the party's isolationist right wing, outraged those same business and farm interests by sitting on a bill that would approve American contributions to the International Monetary Fund.

Such intramural squabbling gets dangerous as Congress closes in on the campaign season. Republicans have yet to establish a record on which to run this November. Members of the rank and file who worry that they will be seen as obstructionists or do-nothingers are continually comforted by the leadership, which has endless polls showing that the public is not worried about anti-tobacco legislation or campaign finance reform. Such polls, of course, have a way of changing when the public focuses on election issues in the fall.

The Republican House leadership, which want-

ed to run on big tax cuts, was rebuffed last week by the Senate. Republicans there fear that President Clinton would be able to brand any sizable tax cuts as a blow against the solvency of the Social Security system. Recent political history suggests they are right, particularly when the tax plan is as irresponsible as the one the House has been brewing up. The gibe by John Kasich, the House Budget chairman, that the Senate has not even been able to pass "a spending-cut bill" seems peculiar, since Mr. Kasich's own chamber cannot agree on cuts either.

Fear of the encroaching elections was behind passage of a patients' rights bill in the House Friday, although the Democrats will try to brand the Republican version of the bill as a shield for the insurance industry. Election pressure has also increased the influence of the G.O.P. moderates normally given leftovers and hand-me-downs. In a welcome move last week, the House calmly approved funding for the National Endowment for the Arts, the longtime whipping boy of the social conservatives. The N.E.A. budget will be tied up with restrictions aimed at keeping any money from artists whose endeavors might offend Middle America, but it is still a noteworthy case of the Republican leadership's allowing moderates to sit at the big folks' table. The leaders have been far less accommodating when it comes to the moderates' pursuit of campaign finance reform. Their intransigence on this issue may shed light on the party's real strategy for winning this fall. Rather than producing legislation the voters like, they seem to be betting that they can hold their own by collecting masses of money from special interests like the tobacco lobby, to finance enough television ads in key districts to keep the party's slender majority intact.

Famine: The Man-Made Disaster

The pictures from the Sudan are heartbreakingly familiar — the sunken cheeks and spindly legs of famine, which could kill half a million people this year. In the past few years the world has improved its ability to spot famine and feed the starving. But in the Sudan and North Korea those efforts are not enough to prevent widespread death from hunger and its related diseases.

Nature causes floods and droughts, but most societies have found ways to get food to those afflicted most of the time. Human folly causes famine, which occurs when those ways are blocked. Amartya Sen, a Harvard economist, argued that there has never been a serious famine in a country — even an impoverished one — with a democratic government and a free press. The press acts as a warning system and the pressures of democracy dissuade rulers from famine-producing policies.

Both North Korea and the Sudan are suffering famine because devastating policies compounded natural disaster. North Korea's Stalinist regime at first refused to ask for help, and until recently would not accept donors' demands that food shipments be tracked. In the Sudan, the main culprit is a 15-year civil war. People must flee their farms and marauders loot stores of seed and burn crops.

Politics has also complicated the world's response. South Korea discouraged countries from giving food to the North. A new Government in South Korea has now stopped using food as a weapon. A consortium of United Nations-led groups has been flying food into the Sudan since 1989. But it underestimated this year's emergency, which worsened as the war intensified and Khartoum imposed a ban on food flights last spring.

Even the U.N.'s reduced appeal for help was only half-met, although more money has been raised with recent publicity. Food, however, must

move through the Kenyan port of Mombasa and be trucked to an airfield to be flown to the Sudan, an expensive process hindered by floods and a truckers' strike. Earlier this month the warring sides agreed to a three-month cease-fire to allow food to come in.

The world's capacity to respond to famine has greatly improved in the last decade. Nineteen countries that received American emergency food this year have no famine. Prediction is more accurate with monitoring systems at the U.N. and the American Agency for International Development that use satellite data and commodity prices. But by the time donors are sure enough to begin aid, it can be too late. Large shipments from the United States to Africa take four to six months, mostly due to requirements that food come from American commodity surpluses and travel mainly on American ships. European Union aid, which can be bought near the emergency site, is quicker and cheaper.

Preventing famine requires more flexibility and planning. The failure to get corn seed into the Sudan in time for a July planting, for example, means the next harvest will also fail. Washington is experimenting with keeping foodstuffs stored in silos in the Philippines or Tanzania, which cuts two or three months off response time. In some cases, Washington can authorize private relief groups to buy a small amount of food near the emergency. These programs should be expanded.

The key to renewing the world's commitment to food aid is to accompany necessary food with programs that help countries become more self-sufficient, from small-scale farming projects to more rational economic policies, which are now helping raise food production in Africa. But in many cases of famine, the world's best investment is in peace negotiations.

The Rural Life

Keeping the New World New

In late April, a neighbor harrowed and seeded my pasture with a mixture of orchard grass, bird's-foot trefoil, clover and rye. For weeks, I looked out on a field that was uniformly brown, all its undulations exposed to view. In the silence that fell when planting was finished, I imagined a flock of starlings — a soot-storm of birds — landing on that newly planted soil and devouring every seed. That did not happen. But as days passed and the bare earth remained bare, I began to imagine that I had neglected some vital organic precondition.

Then a bluish green appeared. It was visible only if you looked across the field, and not too directly either. The new shoots seemed to retire from sight if you stood right over them, questioning. Now the pasture has been mowed once and re-fenced, and the other night I let the horses wander through it for an hour, hock-deep in green grass. They walked briskly with their heads down, snatching a mouthful here and there as they moved.

July is a month when the profusion of nature seems unbelievable, more abundant than even the most verdant January daydream. The embankment bordering the gravel road has become an indiscriminate, tufted mass of green. When I reset the steel T-posts around the pasture, I found a white-spun cocoon or egg cache beneath every black plastic insulator. A caucus of earwigs had convened in the hollow behind an insulator nailed to a locust post. I took down a tent that had been standing at the edge of the woods. Near the summit of the

tent dome, ants had made a nest in a section of fiberglass pole. It was full of nearly microscopic eggs, which the ants hoarded even as their aerie collapsed around them.

In an essay called "Huckleberries," Henry David Thoreau wrote, "Let us try to keep the new world new, and while we make a wary use of the city, preserve as far as possible the advantages of living in the country." Thoreau was talking about the need to preserve wild land in the immediate neighborhood of our towns, to set aside "common possession" in rivers, waterfalls, lakes, hills, cliffs and even "single ancient trees." "I do not think him fit," Thoreau said, "to be the founder . . . of a town who does not foresee the use of these things, but legislates, as it were, for oxen chiefly."

As always, Thoreau set a high standard. I admit that in my pasture I have been legislating for oxen, more or less, even though I remain wary of the city and well aware of the advantages of living in the country. Everywhere, the common possession Thoreau sought has long since been sacrificed — the riverbanks deeded and all but the most prominent singularities of the landscape turned to private, pragmatic use. But still, in July, when the forest closes overhead and the air hums with the unceasing drone of insects and the pasture thickens daily underfoot — when the medieval myth of plenitude throughout the chain of being seems almost real — it is hard not to feel that the new world has indeed become new again.

VERLYN KLINGENBORG

Best Books List Creates Readership

To the Editor:

The Modern Library's list of the 100 greatest English-language novels of the century (Op-Ed, July 21) is a good thing for several reasons, but the best is that it will result in more books being read. The American Film Institute's list of the 100 Best American Movies sent countless viewers to the video store to rent old films. The same will happen with books — not despite but because of the lively disputes over the list. To promote reading, an even more beneficial list would be the 100 Most Fun Reads. The list would include not only titles from the Modern Library's list but also books we'd be shy about mentioning alongside such great works as "Ulysses."

If young nonreaders could be persuaded to read books like "The Caine Mutiny," "Red Dragon" and "Eye of the Needle," the chances of their getting hooked on books are greater than if the bait is "The Golden Bowl" or "Finnegan's Wake." I've read Henry James and James Joyce, but only because Mark Twain hooked me in the first place.

TOM MCCORMACK

New York, July 22, 1998

Banned Volumes

To the Editor:

I found it interesting that the Modern Library voted James Joyce's "Ulysses" the finest English-language novel published this century (Arts pages, July 20). "Ulysses" was banned in the United States from 1920 to 1933 for what has become Jesse Helms's catchword in his crusade against the public financing of art: obscenity.

Banned for obscenity and now the finest English-language novel of the century: Makes you wonder what history will make of the National Endowment for the Arts, and what art will endure.

ALLISON EASTER

New York, July 21, 1998

A Male Bias

To the Editor:

A.S. Byatt, commenting on the Modern Library's list of the 100

greatest English-language novels of the century, said that "there is definitely room for more women" (Arts pages, July 20). The same should be said of the voting board. The panel's 9-to-1 ratio of men to women precludes a list with a balanced gender representation.

Men and women use different criteria to evaluate the written word. Even the Modern Library's prestigious panel seems to have been unable to put aside its male perspective. In making its choices, the panel's uneven gender makeup is not representative of the population — and neither are its choices.

DAWN KIERANS

Perth, Ontario, July 21, 1998

Movies Instead

To the Editor:

I'm slightly abashed that while I have seen 92 of the American Film Institute's 100 Best American Movies, I've read only 24 of the Modern Library's greatest English-language novels of the century (Arts pages, July 20). However, I think I should get extra credit for having seen movies or miniseries based on 31 of the top 100 novels, don't you?

SUZIE ELLIOT

New York, July 21, 1998

Outdated Perspective

To the Editor:

Re "Great Books, Read and Unread" (Op-Ed, July 21): What is remarkable about the Modern Library's list of the best 100 English-language novels is that but for a few selections, it could have been written 40 years ago. The judges were a group of cold-war intellectuals whose positions have not developed since the formation of their literary tastes in the context of a specific ideological position. Alain de Botton is correct to urge us to believe our own tastes and interests. Any list will be controversial, but this list is embarrassing in its promotion of enthusiasms from a bygone era.

RICHARD HUTSON

Berkeley, Calif., July 22, 1998

The writer is an associate professor of English at the University of California, Berkeley.



Greg Clark

\$3.80 Campaign Reform

To the Editor:

The House Republican whip, Tom DeLay, tries to belittle campaign finance reform with the fatuous argument that the amount spent on House races in 1996 averaged \$3.80 per actual voter (news article, July 20). It is "less money than we spent on bubble gum in this country," he said.

Surely he knows that the vast majority of voters contribute nothing. Instead, candidates rely on large donations by a relatively few wealthy donors. And many of the largest contributors are not even voters but large corporations. But if we did have a system in which each citizen contributed a small amount, the widespread cynicism about politicians might be dissipated. In fact, the low cost of \$3.80 means it would be easy to finance such a system. Mr. DeLay's assertion is starting to sound like a good argument for full public financing of Federal elections.

DANIEL A. SIMON

Washington, July 21, 1998

Democrats' Duty, Too

To the Editor:

Your July 23 editorial "The Firestorm Cometh" is right to call on Attorney General Janet Reno to appoint an independent counsel in the campaign finance investigation. But by calling for the Republican Senate leadership to "ignite a firestorm" over Mr. Reno's reluctance to do so, you fall into the trap of politicizing a matter that should be dealt with by the entire Congress. It is the duty of both parties to take action.

Granted, in the real world of Congressional politics, the ball is in the Republican's court, but Democrats should be held just as responsible in this matter.

DAVID W. DENNIS

Old Lyme, Conn., July 23, 1998

Stopping Harassment

To the Editor:

Is it unfortunate that your article on sexual harassment (Week in Review, July 19) focuses on whether an employer will win or lose a lawsuit when harassment has clearly occurred. Smart employers understand the importance of preventing or quickly stopping such behavior. They would ask how much it costs to replace a skilled supervisor or worry about the effect on morale when harassment is allowed to flourish.

A written policy is only a first step. Management has to make clear that complaints will be taken seriously. They have to stop protecting high-ranking offenders and start assuring people that someone bringing a legitimate complaint will be seen as stopping trouble, not causing it.

ELLEN BRAVO

Milwaukee, July 20, 1998

The writer is co-director of 9 to 5.

Education Ends Welfare

To the Editor:

Re "Ending Welfare" (editorial July 21): As a former welfare mother currently pursuing a Ph.D., I know that the best kind of job training is a college education. A college education allows single mothers to buy some time for the important work of mothering.

Unlike the American workplace, which is hostile to parents, universities tend to be family friendly; students can schedule classes so that they can care for their children and pursue a degree.

But college and parenting are not fully acknowledged as work under welfare reform legislation. The Wellstone amendment, currently before the Senate, permits two years of college to count as work. This enables poor women both to prepare for decent jobs and to give their children two years of attentive care. While two years is not enough, this amendment is certainly a step in the right direction.

SANDY SMITH MADSEN

Decatur, Ga., July 22, 1998

Declining Birth Rate

To the Editor:

Your July 21 news article "Black Couples Are Favoring Small Families" points out what careful observers of black birth rates have known for years: that the increasing percentage of black children born to unmarried women reflects the decreasing birth rates of married women more than the increasing birth rates of unmarried women.

Most important, this data should not be interpreted as a vindication of recent punitive measures against women on welfare. Changes in black birth rates, whether a mother is married or unmarried, reflect both the economic system and the criminal justice system much more than the welfare system.

DAVID GREEN

Bear, Del., July 22, 1998

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THE JERUSALEM POST

Missile Defense Plan Ignores Real Threat

To the Editor:

William Safire presents a scenario in which President Saddam Hussein of Iraq says "he has a weapon of mass destruction on a ship near the U.S. and is ready to sacrifice Baghdad if you are ready to lose New York" (column, July 20). Mr. Safire thinks a national missile defense is the answer, but the weapon would not be on a missile. It would simply explode in New York Harbor.

We should try to strengthen the global arms control regime and press countries that are declining to join Mr. Safire's proposed redefining of the Antiballistic Missile Treaty, but that would likely lead to many more countries acquiring such weapons.

VIGOR L. TEPLITZ

Dallas, July 21, 1998

The writer is a professor of physics at Southern Methodist University.

Any Risk Is Too Big

To the Editor:

William Safire claims the United States needs a missile defense to protect against the "likely prospect of surprise nuclear blackmail" (column, July 20). In his hypothetical situation, North Korea attacks the South and the American President threatens an air assault. North Korea threatens to attack Hawaii with a nuclear missile in response. If this President had a missile defense, would he feel free to launch the assault? He would ask his scientists and generals, "Can you guarantee the defense will work?" They would say, "Of course not."

Even if a system could be made 95 percent reliable, the President would be taking a 1-in-20 chance of losing Hawaii. A real-world defense, which can never be fully tested and is always subject to unknown countermeasures, would give the President a worse odds.

LISA G. GROMLUND

Cambridge, Mass., July 21, 1998

The writer is a senior staff scientist at the Union of Concerned Scientists.

Can Boredom Turn Kids Into Murderers?

To the Editor:

Re "After Deaths, County Asks 'Why?'" (news article, July 20): It is unfortunate that Mayor Abraham Seroussi attributes the rash of violence in Gloversville, N.Y., partly to "the whole ghetto chic from the city."

I assume he is referring to the glorification of violence in music and videos by African-American and Hispanic youths in the inner city. But none of the crimes described remotely resemble the drive-by shootings and turf wars of "gangster rap." If there is a connection between the crimes in Fulton County and the problems of the ghetto, perhaps it has more to do with economic dislocation and the absence of options for young people.

Of course, bleak job prospects don't excuse violence. Glorification of violence by the broader culture and the availability of guns must be examined as well. It is too easy — and divisive — to blame the inner city for violence that plagues our society as a whole.

TIM LEDWITH

Staten Island, July 21, 1998

Preventing Delinquency

To the Editor:

Among the lessons to be learned from the recent homicides allegedly committed by young people in Gloversville, N.Y. (news article, July 20) is the critical importance of economic opportunity and meaningful prevention programs for at-risk youth.

Young people and parents quoted cite the disappearance of community centers, playgrounds and parks as factors contributing to the delinquent behavior of area teenagers. Others point to the county's long economic decline as a catalyst.

Unfortunately, Gov. George E. Pataki failed to take heed of these problems when he exercised his line item veto power over this year's state budget. Among the many programs slashed were \$9 million for delinquency prevention programs and \$2.5 million for intensive juvenile probation, as well as numerous smaller allocations for local parks and youth recreation programs.

MONICA DRINANE

New York, July 23, 1998

The writer directs the juvenile rights division of the Legal Aid Society.

Libya and Lockerbie

To the Editor:

Like you (editorial, July 23), I support a trial under Scottish law in the Netherlands for the Libyan suspect in the bombing of Pan Am 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland, in 1988.

It is long past time to call the bluff of Col. Muammar el-Qaddafi, the Libyan leader, on his offer of this arrangement. It has been almost 10 years since my 20-year-old daughter, Alexia, was ripped from my life by this act of barbarism. Such a trial is critical to preserving the integrity of the evidence.

Moreover, if Colonel Qaddafi is serious about releasing the Libyan people from United Nations sanctions and restoring his credibility in the world, then he must agree to this trial. The Libyan-sponsored murder of 189 Americans and the wanton destruction of an American civilian airliner was a heinous and personal crime against the United States.

APKRODITE T. TSAFRIS

Franklin Lakes, N.J., July 23, 1998

I hey've Changed, So They Say

By Andrew Sullivan

W PROVICETOWN, Mass. ho's afraid of former homosexuals? At first blush, of course, it's easy to see why the recent newspaper advertisements promoting the "truth" about homosexuality — that it can allegedly be changed — might provoke a strong response from homosexuals and their allies.

The advertisements, sponsored by 15 religious-right organizations, featured Anne Paulk, a self-described "wife, mother, former lesbian," and were intended to advance the idea that homosexuality is a free and sinful "choice" and therefore unworthy

sexual is not much more promising than to do the reverse."

Freud was also ahead of the game in distinguishing between a psychoanalytic "conversion" and what most people think of as a cure. He once wrote to a mother who was seeking his help to change her gay son: "In a general way, we cannot promise to achieve it."

Or, in the words of a contemporary reparative therapist, Steven Richfield, the most realistic goal of such therapy is "a satisfying heterosexual adaptation which is not jeopardized by the periodic intrusion of homosexual fantasies."

One of his patients puts it in more human terms: "I've come to accept that there is a part of me that I may never be able to get rid of. But maybe I can learn to live with it."

Then there's the notion that homosexuals "choose" their sexuality. If the literature of reparative therapy teaches anything, it is how deep homosexuality runs in a person's identity, and how enormously difficult it is to alter. Most reparative therapists think sexual orientation is fixed in early development before the age of 18 months or, at the latest, three years.

The most prominent psychotherapist in the field, Charles Socarides (whose own son is gay), specifically denies that homosexuality is a choice. What he and other reparative therapists argue, in fact, is something very advantageous to the argument for gay equality: even if homosexuality is not genetic but environmental, it is still involuntary.

In other words, homosexuals have as much choice over their sexual orientation as they do over their race or sex.

Of course, reparative therapists would be appalled at the comparison of sexual orientation with gender or race. For them, homosexuality, while unchosen and deeply ingrained, is still a pathology or psychological disorder.

But this part of their argument is increasingly unpersuasive. As more and more gay men and women live and work openly in our society, the clearer it becomes that they are not demons, disease-carriers or psychopaths. We have our problems — gay men in particular — but the problems are recognizably human problems: of love, commitment, sexuality and intimacy.

Moreover, the contribution gay people make and have always made to society and civilization is hardly the mark of psychological dysfunction. I wonder whether, Trent Lott, who recently compared homosexuals to compulsive thieves, has ever read Whitman or Proust or Auden. Or listened to the music of Copland, Tchaikovsky or Britten. If he does, does he think: kleptomaniacs?

There is, however, one final glimpse of hope in the rhetoric of the religious right in this matter. In its advertisements, the right admirably insists that "ex-gays" be allowed a forum, and to be free from abuse, derision or condescension.

I couldn't agree more. The kind of struggle that these people have had in their lives is a struggle that just about every gay person recognizes. It is the struggle to become who you are. If someone genuinely feels he cannot live with himself as a gay man and decides to submit to grueling therapy and join a particular sect of American Protestantism to be able to live a heterosexual life, then



Barbara Kruger

who am I to stand in his way? These conflicts are so deep, these choices so personal, that only the individual can resolve them.

Reconsidering an ad campaign by the religious right.

But by the same token, doesn't the "ex-gay" owe the same tolerance to me? Shouldn't this struggle be deemed beyond the reach of politics and coercion? If one owes it to an ex-gay not to cast aspersions on her sincerity and mental health, should one not also owe it to a lesbian?

I would not, moreover, deny someone her civil rights because she resolved this issue in a heterosexual way. I wouldn't deny her the right to marry the person she loves, nor would I deem her beneath the civic responsibility to defend her country

Note to Readers

The Op-Ed page welcomes unsolicited manuscripts. Because of the volume of submissions, however, we regret that we cannot acknowledge an article or return it. If manuscripts are accepted for publication, authors will be notified within two weeks. For further information, call (212) 556-1831.

Liberties

MAUREEN DOWD

Of Cabbages and Cops

PASADENA, Calif.

Brace yourself, Brigid. The Irish are chic again. Every few years, we get fashionable. And, saints preserve us, it's a terrible burden.

I'd only just gotten over Tom Cruise mangling an Irish accent in "Far and Away." And now the upcoming television season will be awash in enough embarrassing stereotypes about the Irish to make Barry Fitzgerald wince. There is a raft of new shows about Irish-Catholic working-class families from Boston, New York and Chicago, tightly knit clans with deep roots and fierce loyalties.

Why can't we ever be loosely knit with shallow roots and casual loyalties?

My people have a proverb: There is no use boiling your cabbage twice. But this is Hollywood, the least original place on earth, where they boil their cabbage endlessly. And then serve it in syndication.

Dialogue in the shows, previewed here for television critics, is sprinkled with phrases and lines like "Me boyo," "Mike would be proud," "Your priest brother, he ain't safe tonight," and "This is not going to help my hangover." There are redheads and green cable-knit sweaters. There are saintly mothers and drunken daughters. There are Irish bars with platters of Guinness and Boston Celtics posters. Casseroles abound, but there is not a glass of chardonnay in sight.

There are enough Dombrowskis to make Jerry Springer — not to mention Northern Ireland — look restful. And you'll hear the mournful tin whistle that was so annoying in "Titanic" blow through soundtracks until you

want to kick in a stained-glass window.

Maureen O'Hara even showed up at the TV press tour, as though on cue. I asked the still-beautiful Ms. O'Hara, here to promote her CBS movie "Cab to Canada," whether the cascade of Irish stereotypes bothered her. The woman who saw her share of drinking and fighting when she starred in the John Ford classic "The Quiet Man" replied: "No-o-o-o-o. The Irish people are Celtic Latinos. You can see the same kinds of things in Italian and Spanish families. But we all make up before we go to bed."

Perhaps. But haven't the networks gone a wee bit overboard? CBS' "Turks" is about a family of Chicago cops. In an opening scene, the mother, who has an anachronistic brogue, tells her youngest son she is going to stop by the church to talk to Father Tom. "Your father has his work," she says of her husband. "And I have the Church. We all find comfort in different ways."

NBC's "Trinity" centers on the McCallisters of New York's Hell's Kitchen. They include Bobby, a police detective; Kevin, a parish priest; Liam, a union organizer, and Amanda, a teacher at a Catholic school who keeps her first communion picture by her bed, gets drunk and hides the

shame of being pregnant and unwed. In one scene, Anne Meara, the red-headed matriarch, stands on a fire escape and calls down to her grown children, who are playing a "grudge match" on the basketball court. "Come in for dinner, guys, the potatoes are getting cold."

CBS' "To Have and to Hold" is about the McGrails, a Boston family with three cops and one fireman. This show has an original twist: CBS refers to the family as a tightly knit "brood" rather than a tightly knit "clan."

The Ma in this show also has a brogue and a temper so bad she breaks her Home Sweet Home plate over a drunken son's head and then makes the sign of the cross. The show can't even get its stereotypes straight, at least when it comes to those supposedly fierce McGrail loyalties. At one point, Ma testifies in court against her cop son, Sean, saying he was too drunk to make an arrest. An Irish mother would sooner look on the bright side of something than testify against a son.

"Costello" is a Fox comedy about a feisty Irish barmaid in a South Boston pub with pictures of J.F.K. and sharmocks, where the guys knock heads and put down women, and the women just knock heads. The comedienne Sue Costello, playing Sue Murphy, interprets "Riverdance": "You just have to be Irish and have no joy from the waist up." Murphy's father is a quick-tempered carpenter named Spud and her mother is "fiercely loyal."

For your sins, TV executives, say four Our Fathers and three Hail Marys. And pray for a little originality.

BOB HERBERT

Health Care Denied

Advocates for the disabled want to know why it is taking the Clinton Administration so long to right a wrongheaded and potentially very dangerous ruling by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.

The ruling involved Medicaid funding and was handed down by a three-judge panel in February. It allows states within the circuit — New York, Connecticut and Vermont — to deny payments for medical equipment and some treatments for poor people, even when the equipment or treatments are deemed essential by physicians.

The ruling could have a serious and even life-threatening impact on some patients, especially severely disabled individuals who rely on mechanical breathing aids and other durable medical equipment. Doctors and advocates have said it could also affect the availability of treatment for such illnesses as AIDS, multiple sclerosis, cerebral palsy and renal failure.

The Second Circuit panel recognized that curtailment of Medicaid coverage can be a "death sentence" for some patients, but suggested that patients facing extreme consequences from its ruling seek help elsewhere "in the community."

The ruling has caused widespread alarm and several organizations, including the National Multiple Sclerosis Society and the Medical Society of the State of New York, have joined forces to fight it.

The ruling grew out of a lawsuit that challenged Connecticut's refusal to pay for medical equipment that was not on a list pre-approved by the state. If someone needed an item that wasn't on the list — say, a special mattress to help cope with a serious skin disease or a device to clear fluid from airways — that person was out of luck. The lists were seldom updated. In five years, Connecticut added only one item to the list.

Not only did the Second Circuit panel rule that Connecticut could continue to use its list, it said with regard to Medicaid: "We reject as baseless and unworkable the view (adopted by some circuits) that a state must cover all medically necessary services."

Sheldon Touhman, a lawyer with the New Haven Legal Assistance Association, which brought the original suit, said the decision conflicted with 20 years of Federal rulings on Medicaid, including four other Circuit Court rulings covering 25 states.

He said, "The Second Circuit basically concluded that states are free to

ration health care services within Medicaid benefit categories."

That, he said, was unprecedented. Mr. Touhman and other advocates for the disabled said that Vermont and even some states outside the Second Circuit have been citing the panel's decision in support of their efforts to limit funding for medical equipment. And they said they do not believe it will be long before some states attempt to curtail other services.

Lewis Golinkier, a lawyer from Ithaca, N.Y., who is supporting the plaintiffs in the Connecticut case, said, "It has become clear that other states believe [the ruling] is an invitation to impose absolute restrictions or exclusions on individual treatments, or are seeking other courts' permission to achieve the same result."

In the months since the ruling was

A dangerous ruling on Medicaid.

issued, its opponents have hoped that the Clinton Administration would moot it by issuing a policy directive from the Department of Health and Human Services saying that states are prohibited under existing Federal law from excluding services that are deemed medically necessary.

Such a step would be similar to one taken last May when the Administration let state officials know it planned to require their Medicaid programs to pay for medically approved uses of the impotence drug Viagra.

Administration officials have said little publicly about the Second Circuit ruling. But knowledgeable sources within the Administration said last week that the ruling had caused them "concern" and they are planning to give the states some "guidance" with regard to Medicaid coverage of durable medical equipment. The Administration is opposed to rigid adherence to pre-approved lists, they said.

But the sources said the Administration disagrees with those who believe the court's ruling applies to other types of Medicaid coverage. In a blow to those fighting the ruling, they said there is no need for a broad directive regarding Medicaid coverage and no such directive is planned.

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'The Parent Trap': A 1960's Solution to a 1990's Puzzle

By JAMES RYAN

A recent advance screening of Disney's remake of its classic 1961 film "The Parent Trap," a girl about 7 or 8 years old was overheard to say: "You know what I like about this movie? This is a family movie kids will like."

This pint-size critic had put her thumb squarely on something that has been tormenting Hollywood of late: how to create films that will appeal to young moviegoers without alienating their parents. Nancy Meyers, a veteran screenwriter who is making her directorial debut with the new "Parent Trap," has viewed the predicament from both sides. The mother of two young daughters, she approaches filmmaking knowing exactly what it's like to suffer through an excruciating matinee, glancing repeatedly at a watch and praying for the closing credits.

"I definitely wanted to make a movie where the parents were going to have a really good time and the kids were going to have a good time," she said recently.

However daunting the task of trying to appeal to all ages, Ms. Meyers had an enviable head start in taking on a remake of "The Parent Trap." The original movie, written and directed by David Swift, had a cross-generational appeal that Walt Disney Studios was famous for in the 1950's and 1960's. In addition, it starred the British actress Hayley Mills, who was fresh from Disney's, and Mr. Swift's, hit "Pollyanna," for which she had won a special Academy Award.

In "The Parent Trap," Ms. Mills brought her rare combination of innocence and precocious insight to playing each of two 14-year-old twins who had been separated at birth. One lived in Boston with her mother, por-

trayed by Maureen O'Hara, and the other lived on a California ranch with her father (Brian Keith). By fluke, they meet at a summer camp, then conspire to get their parents back together.

Nearly four decades have passed since this double dose of Ms. Mills entranced moviegoers young and old. Though the original "Parent Trap" has aged remarkably well — it's an ever-popular video rental, and several made-for-television sequels starring Ms. Mills were made in the late 1980's — children today aren't what they used to be. Nor are their parents.

A longtime fan of the original, Ms. Meyers, 48, wrote the screenplay of the remake with her husband, Charles Shyer. They kept the basic plot intact but instituted a variety of subtle changes to make the story more suitable for a late-1990's audience. (They had performed a similar generational face lift for the 1991 remake of "Father of the Bride.") In directing the new "Parent Trap," Ms. Meyers was aided by the use of the latest digital filmmaking techniques, which helped her elicit a striking dual performance from her own young star, Lindsay Lohan, 11. Dennis Quaid and Natasha Richardson portray the girls' parents.

One of the first modifications agreed upon by Ms. Meyers and Mr. Shyer was the need to lower the twins' age. "We tried to figure out what today equals 14 in 1961 and came up with 11," Ms. Meyers explained. "Fourteen-year-olds today are wearing makeup, starting to dress like women, and boys are on their minds." In other words, today's teen-age twins may well be too self-absorbed to care whether their parents get back together or not.

With the new age established, Ms. Meyers said, the rule of thumb on what to retain from the original story was "if it works, keep it." "Our aim

was not to deliver an original screenplay but to remake something that you loved and want to see again," she said. "It's okay to retell a story as long as you tell it really well."

There was little to be done to the central idea of separating twins at birth, and then never informing them of the situation: such a course of action seems as improbable and harsh today as it did in 1961. Ms. Mills, 52, recalled that even as a girl she found the idea quite odd. "There's none so queer as folk, as they say, so get over it," she said by telephone from her home in London. "It makes for a much better story."

The premise came from a short story by the German writer Erich Kastner. A 1954 British movie, "Twice Upon a Time," was also based on the story. "If you dissect it, it's a very tough thing they did," Ms. Meyers said of the 1961 production. More relaxed social mores did allow the makers of the new version to try to give a better explanation for the twins' separation — by having the couple meet, marry and, presumably, conceive the babies during a whirlwind romance aboard the QE2.

As might be expected, female characters underwent the most extensive changes in the rewrite. In the original, the twins' mother (Ms. O'Hara's character) lived with her father and an overbearing mother, did charity work and longed for a new man to come into her life. In the remake, Ms. Richardson portrays a much-sought-after British dress designer who lives with her father — the mother has been replaced by a butler — and seems relatively satisfied with life as a single mom.

The California twin's housekeeper is now a thoroughly modernized nanny who has a close and open relationship with the young girl. "In the 60's you didn't hang out with your nanny; now kids do," explained Ms. Meyers. And the father's gold-digging love interest has been transformed from a coiffed debutante chaperoned by her mother into a publicity agent with a gay assistant. The father owns a vineyard, not a ranch.

Beyond seeking a more contemporary characterization, the filmmakers were greatly aided by technological advances of the last 35 years. In using one actress to portray two twins in a credible way, Ms. Meyers had the advantage, first, of a computer-aided motion-control camera — so-called because a computer records the camera's every movement, making it possible for a sequence to be repeated exactly on subsequent takes. She also benefited from the digital editing process, in which images can be removed and added by computer.

In Mr. Swift's day, the mirror-image effect was created largely by a split-screen filming technique, he said. Shooting from a fixed camera, the right side of the film was exposed. "Then Ms. Mills and her dou-



Lindsay Lohan plays twins in "The Parent Trap," a remake of the 1961 Disney classic.

ble would change costumes and wigs while the film was rolled back," recalled Mr. Swift. "We would play the scene again shooting on the left half of the film. Both takes would have to be perfect for the shot to turn out."

Ms. Mills remembers this process well. "It was very constricting," she said. "You couldn't cross over the center line, and the camera shot had to be lined up against something absolutely perpendicular."

Mr. Swift, who worked under the close supervision of Walt Disney himself, also had to include dozens of shots of the back of the head of Ms. Mills's double, Susan Henning. In the 1961 film, when the twins' faces appear in the same frame, they are side by side, usually with a tree or post between them.

Ms. Meyers and her special-effects coordinator, Jim Rygiel, were able to avoid what he calls the curse of the twin effect by using the motion-control camera, which allows the actor to roam freely, knowing adjustments can be made later.

Unlike her "Parent Trap" predecessor, Ms. Meyers could view on video all of her "pass A" takes — that is, the initial versions of a sequence, with Ms. Lohan portraying one of the twins. The director would then choose which she liked best while Ms. Lohan changed costumes,

to portray the other twin. Meanwhile, a digital artist, sitting in front of a computer screen with an electronic tablet, would quickly sketch a line around the image of the actress, frame by frame. The background could then be removed digitally and the rough image of it superimposed behind the image of the second twin when "pass B" — the sequence with Ms. Lohan appearing as the second twin — was filmed.

Ms. Meyers could watch an approximation of the scene with both characters unfold on the monitor as it would appear in the finished film. Later, in the editing room she would have the luxury of choosing from several pass B takes.

Technology also made Ms. Lohan's job easier than Ms. Mills's. In most cases, she would act out a scene with her double, who would mime the words while she listened to her own voice from the earlier take on a small microphone. On occasion, especially during close-ups, a monitor would be placed next to her and she could play the scene out regarding a video image of herself.

"She was very, very good at it," recalled Mr. Rygiel. "She just led with it. Young people seem to be more comfortable with technology. It was as simple as listening to a Walkman with her."



Brian Keith and Hayley Mills in the original "Parent Trap."

Selling Anything at 3 A.M.

By STEPHEN MC CAULEY

LIKE most addictions, this one began innocently. Late on a sleepless night more than a decade ago, I turned on the television, hoping for an old movie or maybe one of those "Victory at Sea" documentaries. Instead, I got what appeared to be a cooking demonstration.

As I remember it, a preternaturally energetic chef in a house dress and apron was dashing around a sound-stage kitchen, touting the virtues of a culinary appliance. Her companion, a rail-thin woman who appeared to be in the throes of an anxiety attack, kept interrupting to ask for clarification of key points: "How many grams of fat was that?" "Did you say four hours to assemble and bake an old-fashioned pie?"

While the nervous interrogator chewed her lips, the cook ripped the crusts off two pieces of white bread, stuck a few slices of apple between them, sprinkled on sugar and crammed the sandwich into what appeared to be a souped-up waffle iron.

"And it's that simple?" the onlooker asked, wringing her hands. The chef nodded. "It's that simple." The studio audience broke into volcanic applause.

Less than a minute later, the chef winked at the camera and said, with the kind of unconvincing cheerfulness that talented actors are incapable of imitating, "I think it's time to check on our dessert."

She flicked a crusty little pillow out of the machine and slid it onto a plate. "Your own individual apple pie in 30 seconds."

Tension drained from the neurotic observer's face and body. "Unbelievable! Isn't that unbelievable?"

The camera panned the audience, where people sat shaking their heads in stunned disbelief and then broke into another round of deafening ap-

plause. Watching this advertisement — which showed no signs of ending — I felt as if the clutter had been stripped away and I was able to see through to the essence of my real problems. All that money I'd spent on snack food, all that time I'd wasted baking pies. What had I been thinking? I had to have that souped-up waffle iron.

When friends discuss the final episode of "Seinfeld" or the merits of "E.R.," I scratch my head. If I'm looking for the best television on television, I stay up past midnight and channel-surf until I come across a panel of people discussing the virtues of spray-on hair. For 30 minutes of bracing, uplifting pleasure, nothing beats a good infomercial.

In the mid-1980's, the F.C.C. deregulated the length of commercial advertising on television. Almost immediately, a mob of entrepreneurs wielding vegetable slicers and collapsible fishing rods rushed in and began buying up half-hour blocks of air time in the late-night hours that had previously been the province of decades-old reruns and public service announcements.

"Informational long-form programming" was born. Television stations were delighted; rather than paying to fill these time slots, they could sell them outright. And the entrepreneurs? When one company sold \$25 million worth of Flowbee (a hair-cutting gadget you attach to your vacuum cleaner), it became obvious that given 30 minutes and the right formula, you could sell anything.

It doesn't hurt sales figures that so many of these infomercial events are broadcast in the wee small hours of the morning when many of us aren't operating at 100 percent brainpower. One pitchman sets out to prove that a pillow filled with buckwheat husks is cooler and more comfortable to sleep on than the down-filled variety by setting fire to a little pile of feathers. At 3 A.M., it

made perfect sense to me and I pulled out my credit card. But the enduring entertainment value of these productions can't be explained by the time of day alone.

Let's start with the salespeople.

These barkers on adrenaline overload are the direct descendants of the snake-oil bucksters who have held the rapt attention of teeming masses at state fairs for more than a century. Standing alongside these powerhouses of moral conviction are doubting sidekicks who voice the worries of the skeptics — "That vacuum cleaner can't really pick up a bowling ball, can it?" — and feed lines to the stars. And then there's that slack-jawed studio audience, a kind of Greek chorus, interpreting the goings-on and telling me exactly what I'm supposed to be feeling.

These productions are bad, all right, but they have the virtue of being authentically bad. They can't help themselves. Even after more than 10 years of leaden acting and incoherent scripts, there's surprisingly little self-parody.

One more component is crucial in the appeal of all this tacky hype. Mr. Thompson explains it this way: Through the process of natural selection, Americans are genetically engineered to be optimistic suckers. "Our immigrant ancestors came here in search of the land of milk and honey. They believed the stories about the streets being paved with gold. That's why they got on the boats."

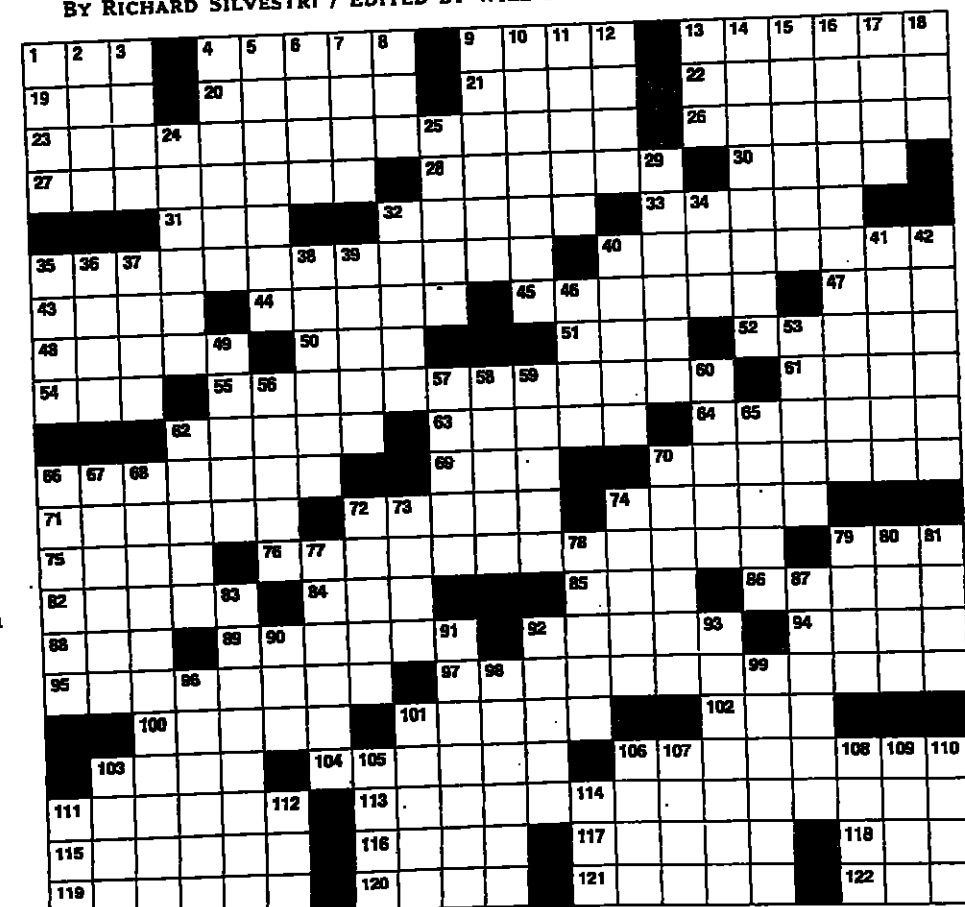
Health, happiness and a tighter tummy are only a purchase away. That notion, reinforced by our culture and demanded by our economy, has become hard-wired into our consciousness. So you see, it wasn't me who bought the Butt Burners, vegetable juicers, souped-up waffle irons and bars of "defatting soap" that sculpture a more perfect physique with every shower; it was my great-grandfather.

DOUBLE HEADERS

By RICHARD SILVESTRI / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

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ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

CAPLET SAFETY PLAZETS
 SLOPE ACADIA TIGRONS
 SKATING SHARK LIGATES
 TIN BNU ATESTS STED
 SHEER PARDO UNITS
 MARPLE RADNER SCAT
 LENDREYOURSHEARS HALO
 ATEASE UNE ARF CANDY
 CRIS FACING NTA OREOS
 TIGHTER OARS STORK
 ICE ORIENTALSHRUB SUB
 ROSES APAL ETIENNE
 IDEAL STL EXOTER TADA
 DAVIS OOH OVI USERID
 EMER CINCINNATISHREDS
 SPRAY ARTISIO KUCHNER
 SANKA TASSO PERCH
 ASHLY SHAIPOH NOH ELA
 PICASSO SANTASSHELVES
 TROPISM INCODE TRAUMA
 ASPERGE AISGENDA ODDIST

Using professional kvetchers

Increasing numbers of US consumers are getting help in the fight for better service from professionals willing to nag, nag, and nag offenders

The list of modern-day frustrations seems to continually grow longer: the airline that lost—and never found—your luggage, the landlord who kept your security deposit without cause, the clerk who was unbelievably slow and rude.

Though these are the kinds of problems for which many consumers want to seek redress, most people don't have the time and energy. What to do? For a fee, you can find someone to whine on your behalf. With names like Rent-a-Kvetch and Ellen's Poison Pen, a cottage industry of professional complainers has sprung up in the US over the public's increasing frustration with bad service and few easy avenues for complaining.

"People are tired of being stepped on," said Ellen Phillips, by day a middle-school teacher in Alexandria, Virginia, by night the proprietor of Ellen's Poison Pen. "They're resentful that the good old days when companies cared seem to be gone."

In the past year-and-a-half, Phillips said she has written nearly 2,000 letters on behalf of wronged consumers and generally, with persistence and creativity, has gotten good results.

B.L. Ochman, a New York woman, exemplifies this new breed of complainers-for-hire. Her apud named company Rent-a-Kvetch, which uses the Yiddish word for a chronic complainer, is "dedicated to arduous legitimate complaining." For \$50 a letter she'll nag, needle, deplore and denounce those lousers who dared to treat someone in such a shoddy manner.

Joan Porte, a 42-year-old Arlington, Virginia travel agent who moonlights as, simply, the Consumer Advocate, finds her expertise in the industry helpful when dealing with customers' displeasure with treatment by airlines, an area that creates a lot of work for complaint specialists.

In one recent letter to an airline Porte wrote, "We are seeking an explanation of and compensation for the lack of service received at the hands of an incompetent and rude agent in New York's La Guardia Airport."

The agent, she said, was "belligerent, domineering and completely unconcerned about [my client's] welfare. This man is not a wanted fugitive! He is a platinum flyer of your airline!" The complaint is pending.

Experts say what has spawned this industry is a service sector that is booming as time-crunched



Travel agent Joan Porte, known as the Consumer Advocate, says most of the letters she has written have been to airlines.

Americans seek out help in more areas of life.

These days you can hire professionals to shop for groceries, walk a dog or buy a car. You can pay people to find a play group for your toddler or arrange your family photographs into an album. And inevitably, as you pay more people to do more for you, you'll have more complaints. So why not hire someone to do your bellyaching for you?

That's what Norman Kozlarek did. The busy Illinois businessman last year bought a \$3,000 television from Toshiba. First, the company's deliverymen brought the wrong TV set. They corrected that mistake, but left the wrong remote control. For months Kozlarek tried to get the correct remote, he said, making repeated phone calls to his local Toshiba dealer. Finally he turned to Ochman, the New York kvetcher. His reason for hiring a professional: "I have enough other things to worry about," he said.

Ochman quickly fired off letters to the president of Toshiba's American division, as well as to the company's head in Japan. It's pointless to deal with anyone else, she said. Nor does it make sense to call the company because "on the phone the other person has the ultimate weapon—they can hang up on you," Ochman said.

Her letter was polite, but firm. "In your exalted position," she wrote the Toshiba bosses, "I am sure it is easy for you to see that devotion to excellent customer service is—above all else—the most important tenet of modern business. Well, sir, Toshiba has failed miserably in this instance."

She continues, "I am sure you will be mortified to hear that this situation had to escalate to the point where Mr. Kozlarek had to hire me to plead on his behalf for the right remote. I trust in your honor that you will rectify the situation."

As a kicker to her letter, Ochman threatened to notify authorities, including the state attorney general,

if prompt action was not taken. The tactics worked. Within days, Kozlarek received not one but two remote controls. "They actually paid attention to what she was saying," said Kozlarek, who has since retained Ochman to help him get a refund for a flawed diamond he recently bought.

Ochman, who began professional kvetching in 1981, said the secret of her success is simply trying to "appeal to people's better nature.... I tell the CEO or the president, 'Don't you feel sorry for this schmuck?'"

She charges \$50 for an initial phone consultation and then \$50 a letter, plus 10 percent on any settlement exceeding \$150. No one really knows how many people make a living, or supplement it, through professional complaining, but the complainers said they know of hundreds of people who have long gripped for free on behalf of their friends and family. Now, some are starting to charge for their services.

Gary and Sandy Rattigan are former amateur naggers turned professionals. Last October, the couple from Somerville, Massachusetts started a company, Complain to Us. They wanted to start a business out of their home and settled on the complaining niche because Sandy, a hospital billing and collections manager, already was an expert in this area.

Over the past nine months, the Rattigans said, they have handled about 200 complaints. They claim a success rate of 65 percent—not too shabby because many of their clients already had harassed every customer-service representative at the offending company.

One satisfied customer is Richard Hill, 27, of Florida, who was hit with a \$300 cancellation fee last winter upon changing the name on his cellular-phone account. For four months he tried in vain to get the cell-phone company to refund his money. Hill then contacted Complain to Us and after a week's worth of faxes, letters and phone

calls his money was returned. "I'd exhausted all my other options," said Hill, who had appealed to a local consumer organization to no avail. "It's nice to find a service that helps the little guy out."

Hill was so pleased he sought out the Rattigans' help a few months later, the couple successfully coaxed his car insurance company into paying a \$500 claim.

Like many others in the business, the Rattigans advertise their services on the World Wide Web (www.complaintous.com). They charge \$50 an hour, an increase from \$25 an hour when they started. The couple said most complaints take an hour to resolve. They earn a 30% commission on refunds exceeding \$300. While they don't guarantee a resolution to a customer's problem, they promise to complain to every appropriate person or they'll return the customer's fee.

A good portion of their phone time is spent on hold, said Gary Rattigan, 41, a painter in his spare time. "Businesses have decided once and for all that customers, once they have paid, are the enemy," he said.

As evidence he and other specialists cite studies such as the American Customer Satisfaction Index, conducted by the University of Michigan. The index last year was 71.1, with 100 being the highest possible score, down from 74.5 in 1994, the first year customer satisfaction was tracked.

"There is more frustration out there, there is more dissatisfaction," said Claes Fornell, the Michigan business professor who led the study. "That, combined with the time pressures facing people, and you may have a real business here."

Yet not all experts think poor customer service is behind consumer complaints. Rather, what's happened, said John Goodman, who runs TARP Inc., an Arlington

research and consulting firm on consumer behavior, is that products have become more complex and are more likely to cause problems for customers.

"People don't want to read the directions," Goodman said. He said a study by his firm, for example, showed that 30% of people who bought a cordless phone and couldn't get it to work simply threw it away rather than read the instruction manual or ask the company for help.

Whatever the nature of the complaints, business has become quite profitable for the more intrepid complainers. Phillips last year signed a book deal with Random House Inc. Her book, *Shocked, Appalled and Dismayed! How to Write Letters of Complaint That Get Results*, is expected to be published in January and sell for \$12 a copy. She wouldn't say what she received in royalties.

Among the complaints Phillips says she has handled are getting the maker of a famous brand of ice cream to pay the medical bills for a man who was rushed to the hospital after a nutshell from the ice cream became lodged in his throat. She also persuaded a Texas city to split a girls' softball league championship after her client complained that his daughter's team lost the game because of a biased referee. She even took on the US Postal Service—and won, she said.

Phillips, 51, plans to retire from teaching next year, but will stay in the letter-writing business, which she said is doing well. She charges \$15 per 100 words, plus \$40 for each hour of preparation time. Porte said she gets most of her clients through her agency. As a result, most of the 70 letters she has penned have been to airlines.

"I like being a pain to big companies," she said. "Nothing irritates me more than the arrogant person who forgets that the folks who are buying your products are keeping you in business."

(Washington Post)

No pain, no gain

It's torture. They bury people alive. Put them on stretch racks. Crush them. Shock them.

You don't even want to know about the bloodsucking and bladder-busting techniques. They insert ghastly devices into various parts of the body. And something never even dreamed up in the Dark Ages, death by hiccups.

We will make you talk!

That should be enough to get us a few condemnations at the UN. But these horrific instruments of torture are not being used by the GSS against Arab terrorists; they're being used by Hadassah Hospital, on Jewish patients.

Such as me.

There I was, howling for mercy during a gallium scan, when it occurred to me that this procedure is probably outlawed for use against mass murderers. To me, they say, it's good for you. I might have argued.

Yeah, I know, here I am writing about my favorite hospital and being ungrateful again. But no, I'm not complaining.

Well, just a bit.

In some cases, suffering is a bonus. The gallium scan, for instance, could be considerably more humane if the manufacturer had added a simple, cheap doorknocker.

IF YOU'VE been healthy all your life you have no idea what I'm talking about. Take my advice: Stay healthy. This is what you're missing.

One of the few instruments of torture I may never experience is the mammography. I'm told that anyone who's had a mammogram can never eat pressed duck again.

The MRI is a coffin in all ways but one: It's noisy enough to wake up the dead. They put you in, scrunch you up so that there is barely room for your lungs to expand, slide you in, turn on the screaming sound effects, then take the rest of the day off, leaving you to die.

The cruellest part is that it doesn't occur to them to reassure you, warn you, ask if you suffer from claustrophobia. Which you will after this.

Ephresis, or stem-cell collecting, uses a machine they got right out of a '50s sci-fi pic. They plug you in through a vein in one arm and suck out your blood, sending it swirling around a spin-dryer and then back to a vein in your other arm, minus some vital component that allows you to think independently, or something.

The gallium scan was inspired by the Inquisition. You lie on your back on a narrow, hard board. You extend your arms over your head, wa-a-a-y back. Then you're told, "Don't move." It's only for as long as it takes the camera to go around full cycle.

It takes 45 minutes. The pain in your shoulders is excruciating, the torture from unscratching itches and tickles all over your body intolerable, and the 45 minutes takes 45 years.

When it is over, two people come and slowly lower your arms, because you cannot, and then they tell you whoops, you can't leave just yet, you've got to do it again.

And again! One time, they put

me through the scan four times. I actually cried.

This is a thoroughly unnecessary evil. The manufacturers could have put a couple more bucks into their multi-million dollar machine and added a handle or post to hold on to. The hospital staffers could easily ease the pain, but, it seems, they can't be bothered. I suppose when you hear whimpering and cries for mercy all day, you don't even notice it anymore.

Try the bone biopsy. The first needle they give you, in the hip, is supposed to numb the outer flesh. It hurts like hell. The second needle goes deeper, so you shouldn't feel the pain in the inner flesh. It hurts even worse. Then they explain that they're going into the bone, which can't be numbed, so it's going to hurt.

Four ex-wrestlers are called to lug the biopsy needle to your bedside. They won't let you see the needle, because you can't survive the shock.

I'd like to meet the person who invented the lithotripsy. It's a bath, you get in, and they zap you with kidney-stone-crushing high-frequency soundwaves. Weird but true.

The catheter is too embarrassing to talk about.

I once had a camera pushed down my throat. Through my nose. (It was a very small camera.)

And hiccups once sent me to the hospital for a week. They were so severe my body couldn't cope, and sort of shut down bit by bit. You know how I got these hiccups? The hospital gave them to me, as a bonus with the chemotherapy. (Chemotherapy is another beast: They pump you full of poisons, call it a cure, and then fight like the Dickens to save you from the cure.)

All this is good for you, they say, it's progress, and maybe it is. Like when I took my daughter Nomi to have a split in her forehead sewn up.

Stitches?! Not these days. They glued it shut instead. That's not how it was when I was a kid.

The most incredible contraption of all, though, is the hospital elevator. Specifically, the one at Hadassah's Sharet building, where I've spent considerable time.

The elevator is a tourist attraction. It's the major subject of conversation throughout the seven-story building, because every day it has a different idiosyncrasy.

It's a riot to watch first-timers. They're lulled because the elevator is phenomenally slow, and when — if — it does arrive, the door opens at the rate of an inch a minute.

But the moment you step across its threshold, WHAM, at the speed of light it closes on you again and again, pulverizing you. It is especially funny watching the old and infirm being whammed off their feet.

It is also funny to watch people trying to reason with the elevator. "But it's going up; I thought..." or, "If this is the first floor, why does the light say 2?"

The thing could go left or right instead of up and down, and no one would be surprised. If only the Palestinians would complain to the UN about this elevator....

Not Page One



Sam Orbaum

Database — window to the past

The JSTOR database is allowing researchers to examine previously hard to obtain journals, some more than a century old, and making space on library shelves, as Jim Welch discovered

Think the term "politically correct" is a recent invention? So did the editors of the Oxford English Dictionary. Its editors pegged 1979 as the year political correctness first surfaced—at least as part of the language. But it turns out that the dictionary was politically incorrect after all.

Using a massive, electronic library, Yale University researcher Fred Shapiro unearthed a far earlier citation for the term—"this one going back to a 1948 edition of the *American Political Science Review*." This isn't the only time Shapiro has contested a citation from a 1918 journal. Shapiro has sent these corrections along to the editors, but the entries remain uncorrected.

At the heart of Shapiro's research is JSTOR, a database, short for journal storage, is a nonprofit organization that has created a searchable database of old copies of dozens of academic journals in 13 disciplines.

JSTOR and other electronic databases are increasingly being used by college students and professors. Five Connecticut schools are among 270 nationwide that offer JSTOR as part of their digital library. The database stores copies of journals three years and older dating back to the first issue. Some publications in the database are more than 100 years old. The electronic database has allowed Shapiro to do all his research from his Yale

office.

"Traditionally this research has been done by researchers poking around in dusty old libraries," he said. Researching the origin of words is important for more than listing the correct date in the dictionary, Shapiro said. "It's shedding light on the whole history of culture and politics," he said. The database is changing how research is done at other colleges as well. "JSTOR is just part of a trend of an anytime, anywhere library," said Paul Kobulnicki, director of university libraries at the University of Connecticut.

JSTOR (www.jstor.org) is also reshaping research at smaller colleges. "It is a very good model of where the online library is going," said Robert Adams, university librarian at Wesleyan University.

Electronic databases also help free valuable space in libraries. The library shelves at Yale are already at capacity, said Kim Parker, electronic publishing and collections librarian. "At Yale we won't throw away the print material. Other schools may, but we won't ever throw away the journals," Parker said. But the college may move the older journals offered by JSTOR to an off-campus shelving service.

Parker said Yale students and faculty still use the print editions of journals. The articles take a long

time to download electronically from JSTOR because they are delivered over the Internet as image files, not text. While this provides a more accurate reproduction of the original page, it takes longer to download and print. JSTOR can be quicker than searching the shelves if the student is at a computer terminal with a fast Internet connection. "Students are always interested in saving themselves some time," Parker said.

Some students at William and Mary College, in Williamsburg, Virginia will be required to use JSTOR starting next fall. Seth Carpenter, an economics professor at the college, will require students to use JSTOR in his class in economic research and writing. Carpenter said JSTOR allows students to read more introductions to articles, so they can decide what articles are best for their research.

"When students go to the shelves for print editions, they tend to be looking for one specific article. They do not spend the time to search for others," he explained.

Carpenter said he also finds JSTOR a tremendous asset for his own personal use. He first used JSTOR as a student in graduate school and continues to use it as he enters his second year as a professor.

Jenn Drummond, a May graduate

of Rice University in Houston, said she started using JSTOR about a year ago while studying ecology. "I was really happy to find it because I was an inexperienced researcher," she said.

Those who lack experience may not know how to find something on the library shelves. "As soon as you find something promising you have to stop and drop everything," Drummond said of traditional research. "The best-case scenario, you have to write the title down and head for the stacks and hope it is in the right place."

Adams, the librarian at Wesleyan, recalled a student who used JSTOR this spring to do research on civil rights leader W.E.B. DuBois. The student "was able to read journals of the time. This student was interested in what DuBois's contemporaries thought of him," Adams said.

There is a drawback to JSTOR, though. "It's very expensive," said Jeanne Sohn, library services director for Central Connecticut State University. Central, along with some other Connecticut state universities, are thinking about subscribing. It would cost each school \$30,000 to get the service, and \$4,000 a year to maintain it.

A sliding scale based on the school's size determines the cost of JSTOR. "The value they get out of the database is what we think they

should pay," said Kevin Guthrie, president of JSTOR. "We feel the Yales of the world should pay more than smaller schools."

Getting journals to work with JSTOR hasn't always been easy. The publishers of journals and the researchers using them have very different needs. Publishers are concerned about the redistribution of content that they own; they want to ensure copyrights will be upheld and that the material is used fairly. Guthrie said, "It comes down to libraries want to make things free, and publishers want to make money," he said. Since current issues are what make profits for journals, the JSTOR database only offers older copies.

The Andrew Mellon Foundation, an organization that supports liberal arts colleges, started JSTOR in 1994. The foundation's president, William Bowen, was confronted with a library space problem similar to Yale's at its alma mater, Denison University in Ohio. As a member of the board of trustees, Bowen was asked whether the school should build a \$5-million addition to the library to shelf books and back issues of journals and magazines. So with Bowen's urging, JSTOR was born. It became independent of the foundation in 1995.

The service now has 49 journals in the active database and 27 more signed up for the 1998-99 academic year. The next step for JSTOR is to make the project global. In March, JSTOR set up a site in the UK, and Guthrie said he would like to reach out to Africa and Eastern Europe next. "These places need it more than others. They never had access to these things before," he said.

(The Hartford Courant)

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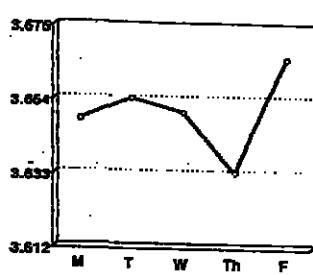
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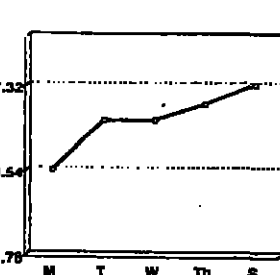
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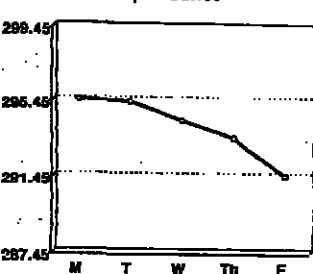
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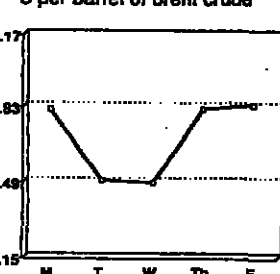
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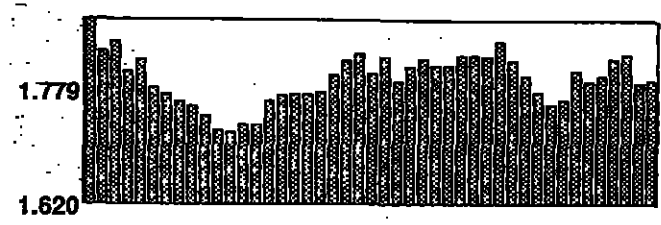
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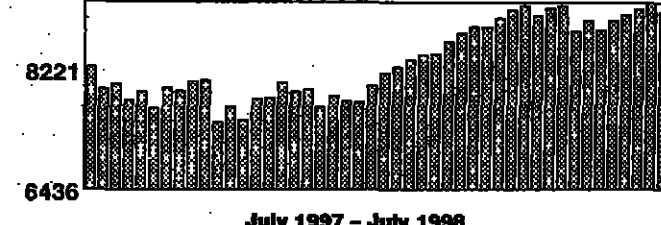
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Frenkel to announce Aug. lending rate today

Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel will today announce the key lending rate for August, with economists widely predicting a 0.3 percent cut. In each of the last six months Frenkel has cut interest rates. The July rate stood at 11.3%.

David Harris

Cial Industries invests \$10m. in D-Pharm

Cial Industries and Investments has yesterday announced that it has signed an initial contract for the purchasing of 25% of D-Pharm for \$10 million. The investment is the first made by Cial in a biotechnology company.

Rehovot based D-Pharm specializes in drug targeting and delivery. The company is developing drugs for the treatment of stroke, epilepsy, cancer and viral diseases.

Other investors in the company include venture capital funds Gemini, Advent, Walden, Apex-Leumi Partners, Medmax Ventures and Vortex Management.

Dan Gerstenfeld

Oracle to give millions for computer projects

Oracle, the world's second-largest software company, announced yesterday that it would donate millions of dollars for educational projects in computerization and the Internet in cooperation with the government.

Oracle CEO Lawrence Ellison met with Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and Deputy Minister Michael Eitan last week to discuss the project.

Under the program, Oracle is to help computerize schools around the country and homes in Ariel, and establish computer centers for joint computer training of Israelis and Palestinians.

The project was spearheaded by Ariel Mayor Ron Nahman, who enlisted Oracle for the Ariel-1 project, under which network computers with Internet links will be installed in all schools. It also aims to get 75% of homes in the town linked to the Internet.

Oracle will also contribute to the community Internet centers initiated by Eitan and will equip three such centers in development areas.

In April, Microsoft signed a cooperation agreement with the government for its participation in the HILA project that is computerizing government offices, to donate software for community centers and set up a national E-mail project.

At the time, Eitan called on other software companies to make similar donations.

Nina Gilbert

Rotem to buy French food company

Rotem Amfert Negev yesterday announced that it has purchased all the food hygiene activities of French company CEPI for an undisclosed price. The company has a number of subsidiaries in several European countries. Rotem, which is a subsidiary of Israel Chemicals, said that the new business is synergistic to its activity in France, Belgium, Germany, Austria, Spain and parts of Eastern Europe.

Dan Gerstenfeld

Public housing bill to be debated today

One of a backlog of bills expected to generate argument today is the bill by Meretz MK Ran Cohen which would grant the residents of public housing the right to buy their homes at a huge discount. This bill is opposed by the government and coalition and Likud MP Meir Shevrit has drawn up his own alternative to it.

Shevrit is threatening to file more than 1,000 reservations to Cohen's bill, which would draw the debate out over several hours and require it to go back to committee stage for discussion on amendments.

Liat Collins

Gov't to create financial regulator

Prospective forum to be modeled on the newly formed British FSA

By DAVID HARRIS

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu has told the Treasury to form concrete proposals for the creation of an overall financial regulator similar to the British Financial Services Authority (FSA), which is still under construction, according to a senior Treasury official.

The body would not replace existing organizations, but act as an umbrella institution responsible for the regulation of investment business, supervision of banks, and listed money-market institutions.

The plan is based on one of the recommendations of the 1996 Brodet Committee report on reforming the capital markets.

"On this point I thought the committee's proposal was most welcome and is even more appropriate today," Tel Aviv Stock Exchange managing director Saul Bronfeld said last night.

Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman and his Director-General Ben-Zion Zilberfarb raised the idea during their 1999 state budget meeting with Netanyahu on Thursday. "Netanyahu listened, said he liked the idea, and asked us to bring forward concrete proposals for its inclusion in the 1999 budgetary arrangements bill," the official said.

Britain's FSA, which has had a tough birth in recent weeks, will have the power to levy limitless fines on regulated institutions and people and can also bring civil fines on

unregulated people or firms. The FSA will also have extended powers to regulate mortgage lenders, retail banks, and general insurers.

As a result of the creation of the FSA, the Bank of England is this week planning to cut its workforce by 250, according to *The Sunday Telegraph*. The job cuts will hit the personnel, security, and premises departments once supervision of financial institutions is transferred to the new authority.

The FSA was proposed by the Labor government during last May's general election as a way to combine under one roof the regulation of banking, securities, life insurance, fund management, and brokerage services.

In Israel it is still unclear how comprehensive the model will be. For the time being the Treasury seems to want its version of the FSA to be responsible merely for capital markets, but the Treasury official could not rule out its wider application.

Presently Israel's supervision of financial activities is in the hands of the Israel Securities Authority and the Supervisor of Insurance and Capital Markets, both under the tutelage of the finance minister and the supervisor of banks, who is answerable to the governor of the Bank of Israel.

"The idea of the authority, according to the Brodet Committee, would be to create greater coordination between the bodies," explained Bronfeld.



Turkey opens new car plant

From left to right: Rahmi Koc of Turkey's largest industrial group, Koc Holding, Ford vice-chairman Wayne Booker, Turkish President Suleyman Demirel and Prime Minister Mesut Yilmaz together push buttons at a groundbreaking ceremony for a new \$550 million auto plant in Kocaeli. The plant is a joint venture between Ford Motor Company and Koc Holding.

(AP)

Kajiyama set to be Japan's Finance Minister

TOKYO (Bloomberg) — Japan's next prime minister, Keizo Obuchi, plans to ask former chief cabinet secretary Seiroku Kajiyama to become the finance minister, the *Sankei* newspaper reported, in an interview with Obuchi.

Analysts say Kajiyama would be a good bet to head the Finance Ministry since he pushed most aggressively to close insolvent banks and force healthy banks to write off their problem loans.

Obuchi will "obviously want to bring Kajiyama's supporters on board and show markets he's going to be tough on banks," said Kazunori Shimono, a manager at Ryoko Securities Co.

Former Foreign Minister Yukihiko Ikeda, named to replace Policy Research Council Chairman Taku Yamazaki, said Saturday the new government will move ahead with an LDP blueprint to tackle Japan's \$543.4 billion in bad or risky bank loans.

To help compensate for an image as an economic lightweight, Obuchi has pushed for new tax cuts and more spending to boost growth.

Obuchi said at least 4 trillion yen of the 6 trillion yen tax cut he called for would be cuts in income tax, the *Nihon Keizai* newspaper reported, citing an interview with Obuchi.

He also said next year's tax revision would include a formal reduction of the tax law, and that the tax cut would be at least the same size as the temporary cuts this year, the report said.

Separately, the *Asahi* newspaper reported that the 6 trillion yen tax cut will take effect in January 1999. Obuchi also won't reduce minimum income rates on taxes for low-income groups, the paper said.

Kolber to earn NIS 3.6m. a year

Coca-Cola issues franchise for PA

By NINA GILBERT and MOHAMMED NAJIB

Jonathan Kolber, Koor Industries CEO, will earn an annual salary of at least NIS 3.6 million, the company announced yesterday in a statement to the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange.

Kolber, who replaced Benny Gaon earlier this month, will receive a monthly salary of NIS 300,000. The monthly costs arising from Kolber's salary to Israel's largest holding company are estimated at some NIS 350,000.

Kolber will receive an additional bonus worth up to eight monthly salaries conditioned on the conglomerate's earnings. He will also receive 105,263 options, which are equivalent, if exercised, to some 0.6 percent of Koor's equity.

Dan Gerstenfeld

The Coca-Cola Co. has issued a franchise for the West Bank and Gaza Strip to a Ramallah border, in which the Atlanta, Georgia-based company has also purchased a 15 percent stake.

Production by the National Beverage Co. of Coca-Cola, Diet Coke, Fanta and Sprite is due to begin on August 1.

Distribution of the products to the Palestinian areas was previously carried out by the Bnei Brak-based Central Bottling Company, which has been producing in Israel for 30 years.

Coca-Cola country manager Ian Shackleton said the deal with National Beverage was the result of a multi-million dollar investment in the Ramallah plant by the shareholders to bring the factory

up to Coca-Cola's standards. "We believe that a local franchise is the best for developing local business with local customers," he said.

Under the franchise, National Beverage will not be allowed to sell its products in east Jerusalem, which will continue to be supplied by the Israeli plant.

Zahi Khouri, CEO of National Beverage, said the deal "opens a new epoch for the independent development of the Palestinian economy in the West Bank and Gaza Strip."

He said he expects the plant to provide jobs for hundreds of Palestinians, in production, mar-

keting and distribution, and also give Palestinians the opportunity to gain management experience through cooperation with the Coca-Cola company.

Khouri was previously involved in the plant's production of club soda.

Asked about a possible conflict due to the expected discrepancy in prices between the two, nearby markets for the soft drinks, Shackleton said "the prices in each market are set according to local market needs."

He refused to say at this time how much the soda would cost in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

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US wrestlers beat Iran amid political protests

NEW YORK (AP) — Goodwill

GOODWILL GAMES

gave way to political protest Saturday as the 20-year standoff between the United States and Iran sparked a wrestling walkout.

Exile groups protesting the militant Islamic government in Tehran interrupted Saturday night's Goodwill Games wrestling match between the US and Iran.

After Behnam Talebi scored a 5-0 shutout against American Sam Henson, Tony Purler of the US entered the ring for his bout against Mohammad Talebi. But Talebi did not appear and the Iranians refused to wrestle because of the protesting fans.

After 20 minutes, Talebi entered the ring waving an Iranian flag and the match continued. The US won the dual meet 19-8, clinching it on former world champion Melvin Douglas' overtime victory over Olympic silver medalist Abbas Jafidi.

"A group of fans was protesting politically in the stands. The Iranian team leader took offense and left with his team," said Larry Sciacchitano, president of USA Wrestling. "What they asked us to do was to clear the protesters from the arena. We had a hard time convincing them that this is a free society."

Although at least eight protesters were seen being escorted from the 5,500-seat theater at Madison Square Garden, city police reported no arrests. There also were no reports of injuries.

Hundreds of Iranian fans were wearing T-shirts bearing the name and picture of Maryam Rajavi, head of the National Council of Resistance in Iran, and appeared to be the center of the dispute.

When the Islamic fundamentalists overthrew the regime of the Shah of Iran in 1979, the US and Iran broke diplomatic relations which remain

severed. Hundreds of thousands of Iranians also fled the country and there have been protests against the Tehran regime.

The busiest day of the games was a good day for America's oldtimers. Karch Kiraly, who celebrates his 38th birthday this fall, and Adam Johnson, 33, advanced to the gold-medal match in beach volleyball with a 12-2, 12-10 straight-set win in Central Park over a pair of Australians in their 20s.

"You'd probably have to open his brain to find that out," Johnson said when asked what kept Karch kicking. "I think his drive for success is so much greater than a lot of people's. He raises your level of play."

Douglas, who turns 36 next month, raised his own level of competition and helped pace a big American victory over Turkey before the Iran match.

Douglas, the 1993 world champion at 213 pounds from Mesa, Arizona, scored a 3-0 overtime decision over Kasif Sakiroglu, one of six US victories in eight matches.

Les Gutches, of Corvallis, Oregon, scored the biggest victory of the contest, a technical-superiority defeat of Ali Ozon.

Gutches led 11-0 when the referee stopped the bout at 4:49, earning four points for the US.

Other US winners were Sam Henson at 119 pounds, Lincoln McIlvay (152), Steve Maranetti, in overtime (168) and Kerry McCoy (286).

Russia beat Iran, 17-12, in the tournament opener and later beat Turkey 20-11. As the competition continued on a glorious summer day, a Chinese gymnast paralyzed in a practice accident underwent surgery in hopes of someday walking again.

Doctors at Nassau County Medical Center fused two fractured and dislocated vertebrae in the neck of 17-year-old Sang Lan during a



TAKEDOWN — The USA's Cary Kolat takes down Iran's Mehdi Kaveh in their 63kg weight class on Saturday. Kolat won the match in a decision.

(Reuters)

seven-hour operation.

Sang was in critical but stable condition. Her parents arrived from China late Saturday.

In soccer, the US will play today

for the gold medal against China. The Americans, with Mia Hamm scoring three goals, beat Denmark 5-0, after China upset women's world champion Norway 4-2 in a shootout.

The men's triathlon title was won for the second straight time by Simon Lessing of Great Britain, while Australia's Loreta Harrop rallied to win the women's race.

Cycling, in an unusual team format, found the US in front after the first of two days. Mike McCarthy won the men's elimination and scratch race, and the US trio of Paul

Swift and brothers Jonas and James Carney took the Magic Mile. Olympic speedskating medalist Chris Witt was second in the women's sprint.

Samaranch: Banned substances list must be cut

MADRID (AP) — The actual list of banned doping products must be slashed and substances that don't damage an athlete's health should not be prohibited, Olympic chief Juan Antonio Samaranch said in an interview with a Spanish paper published yesterday.

For the International Olympic Committee chairman, the recent scandal involving the Festina team in the Tour de France is "a tough blow for cycling and for all sports," he told *El Mundo* newspaper.

"But the ones to blame are not the athletes but those around them," he said. "Doping demands an exact definition...and I have

been asking for it for years."

He denied that the IOC has considered legalizing doping but argued that "the actual list of (banned) products must be reduced drastically."

"Doping (now) is everything that, firstly, is harmful to an athlete's health and, secondly, artificially augments his performance," Samaranch said.

"If it's just the second case, for me that's not doping. If it's the first case, it is," he added.

As for the immediate future, he said he didn't think blood tests, instead of urine tests, would be a solution.

Samaranch insisted that although Tour de France episode was particularly embarrassing, the overall situation was fairly healthy.

"For example, in the World Cup there were more than 60 games and nearly 300 doping controls carried out, but not one player tested positive," he told the paper.

The Festina cycling team, long ranked as one of the world's best, was kicked out of the Tour de France after its director admitted, the team, had supplied banned substances, with medical supervision to improve performances.

Last week saw the scandal widening when it was reported that customs officials found

the banned drug EPO in a car of officials from the Dutch team TVM in March.

Samaranch denied that the IOC was in a position to impose a change and said it needed the collaboration of all. A major turning point for the Olympics, he said, was in the Seoul Games in 1988 when top athlete Ben Johnson was suspended.

"Some said it was a bad day for sport. We said, the opposite," Samaranch told *El Mundo*. "And since then we have seen that we are not alone in the struggle." We have been joined by federations and sports groups of all sorts and, as the Tour showed, even by governments."



THE LOOK OF VICTORY — Gustavo Kuerten celebrates after beating Karol Kucera in the final of the Mercedes Cup yesterday.

(Reuters)

Kuerten beats Kucera in Stuttgart final

STUTTGART (Reuters) — Gustavo Kuerten of Brazil bounced back after a shaky start to beat Karol Kucera of Slovakia 4-6 6-2 6-4 in the final of the \$1.04 million Mercedes Cup clay court tournament yesterday.

Kuerten, ranked 26 in the world, was 4-0 down at one stage in the opening set but recovered strongly on the surface on which he won the French Open title in 1997.

The 21-year-old, seeded 13th, collected the \$157,000 first prize but gave the accompanying \$60,000 Mercedes limousine to his coach Larry Passos, much to the chagrin of his grandmother Olga who had jumped into the passenger seat of the car after the match.

"I know that my mother and grandmother would have liked it, but I think I'm going to give it to Larry," said Kuerten, who reached the finals with a straight sets win over 1998 French Open winner Carlos Moya on Saturday.

Chile's Marcelo Rios was thwarted in his bid to retake the world No. 1 spot in Saturday's other semifinal when he lost to Kucera, who was seeded fifth in the tournament.

Kucera, who reached the semifinals of the Australian Open at the start of the year, also lost in last year's final here.

FIABA adopts clock stop in last two minutes

ATHENS (Reuters) — The World Basketball Federation (FIABA) congress yesterday adopted a new regulation calling for the clock to be stopped after every successful field goal in the last two minutes of a game.

The clock will be stopped in the last two minutes every time there is a basket and will restart when the ball is back in the field, FIABA spokesman Florian Wanningner told a news conference.

The FIABA congress, meeting in Athens before the start of the July 29-August 9 world championship, also adopted an extra time out

(third) in the second half increasing the number of time outs in a game from four to five.

The new rules will be adopted for the first time at an international level in next July's world junior championship in Lisbon. FIABA urged national federations to implement them as soon as possible.

The congress unanimously elected Abdoulaye Seye Moreau from Senegal, as FIABA's new president for the next four years, replacing American George Kilian, who had served since 1990.

Daredevil dies in failed jump

LANCASTER, Penn. (AP) — A one-time record-holding motorcycle jumper died after plummeting from a ramp while trying to soar 150 feet on an all-terrain vehicle at a motor car spectacular.

Todd Seeley, 35, of Tampa, Florida, missed the ramp during a jump, landing face down in the dirt at Buck Motorsports Park Saturday night. He died in the operating room of Lancaster General Hospital late Saturday, a hospital spokeswoman said.

Seeley, who held the Guinness Book of World Record from 1988 to 1991 for jumping 246 feet on a motorcycle, started the evening with a successful 150-foot jump on his stock motocross cycle.

He then geared up for the 150-foot

jump on a four-wheel all-terrain vehicle — which would have been a record at the arena. Seeley had jumped 160 feet on an ATV at the Pontiac Silverdome in 1993.

As the stunt began, Seeley revved up the squat red-and-white ATV to reach 65 mph, a shower of golden sparks from a firecracker trailing behind it. Ahead of him, he aimed for the 12-foot-wide, 84-foot-long landing ramp about 100 feet away.

More than 4,000 spectators gasped and rose to their feet as Seeley came off the ramp — the ATV visibly pulling left. He shoved his vehicle away in mid-air, his body clipped the safety catches along the ramp's side, and he hit the dirt face down beside the landing ramp. He didn't move as ambulance crews carried him away.

Israel bowlers win 4th Test against Wales

By NORMAN SPIRO

CARDIFF — Bright sunshine brought out the best in Israel's bowlers when they salvaged their pride to win the fourth and Final Test in Cardiff on Saturday, after three previous defeats.

Israel got off to a good start when they won both triples games and one of the three pairs games. They then needed three wins in the singles to clinch the match, which from the previous Tests appeared to be unlikely.

But when Chaim Shefer recorded the first win, and Jeff Rabkin and Cecil Bransky were each up a

few shots in the final stages, a win seemed very possible. In a nail-biting finish, Bransky held on for an excellent 21-15 win over Welsh international Steve Rees, and Rabkin settled the issue with a 21-16 win over his younger and keener opponent.

Not that the morning rounds didn't have their moments of drama. For the fourth and fifth times, it was a last-bowl effort by Rabkin to win both his pairs and triples games — the latter against international John Price and Rees.

The Israeli party now crosses the border to England for the second leg of the tour.

Nine leading French rugby teams opt out of Euro cup

PARIS (AP) — France's nine leading rugby teams have decided to shun the European Cup and form a new championship with the English, a newspaper reported yesterday.

Financial disputes with organizers of the European Rugby Cup prompted English clubs to opt out, and the leading French clubs joined them, *L'Equipe* reported.

The sports daily quoted a statement issued Saturday night by the breakaway French teams, saying they will not participate in the European Cup and will "create a new European competition with the English."

The decision comes a year and a half before the scheduled rugby World Cup and just six weeks before the new season begins.

The breakaway French clubs include Stade Francais, Brive, Bourgoin, Bègles-Bordeaux, Pau, Toulouse, Narbonne, Castres and Perpignan, member of the organization GCPRE.

The clubs have also fought French championship plans. The French Rugby Federation, or FFR, decided to include 24 teams in two groups next season. The breakaway clubs want between 16 and 20 teams in the competition.

Rookie Leaney wins Dutch Open

HILVERSUM, Netherlands

(Reuters) — Australia's Stephen Leaney faced a severe test from Britain's Ryder Cup player Darren Clarke before winning the Dutch Open at Hilversum yesterday to earn his second European Tour title in his rookie year.

Leaney, 29, began the final round two strokes ahead of the field, but expected to be threatened by his playing-partner, current European No. 1 Lee

Westwood or triple major champion Nick Price. Instead it was Clarke who provided the danger as the Northern Ireland man made a blazing start and went on to equal the course record before being squeezed out by just a stroke.

A four-under-par 67 was just good enough for Leaney to follow up his Moroccan Open success earlier in the year as he totalled 18-under-par 266.

Sydney Swans thrash Brisbane by 60 points

MELBOURNE (AP) — Sydney veterans Paul Roos and Wayne Schwass celebrated major Australian Football League milestones yesterday as the Swans scored a 60-point Australian rules football win over Brisbane.

Roos, who has played 350 AFL games, and Schwass (200) collected 54 possessions between them in the Swans' 22-17 (149) to 14-5 (89) win. Roos became the seventh man in AFL history to reach the 350-game mark, helping the Swans consolidate fourth place and move to just one game off first place.

In other games yesterday, Essendon beat St. Kilda 14-6 (90) to 13-9 (87), putting Essendon back into the top eight with five rounds remaining. And Richmond ended

Geelong's finals chances with a 10-7 (67) to 8-10 (58) victory.

On Saturday, captain Wayne Carey kicked eight goals and four behinds to lead North Melbourne past Melbourne 22-20 (152) to 13-9 (87).

Collingwood's finals hopes all but vanished after West Coast recorded a 21-point victory over the Magpies. The Eagles led all day and withstood a final-quarter comeback from Collingwood before winning 13-8 (86) to 9-11 (65).

Carlton, behind 18-year-old Lance Whitall's eight goals, beat the Western Bulldogs 29-11 (185) to 15-15 (105).

A three-goal game from Port Adelaide midfielder Nathan Eagleton helped his side gain a 21-point victory over Hawthorn. The

18-11 (119) to 15-8 (98) win kept the Power's slim finals hopes alive. On Friday, the Fremantle Dockers, leading by 23 points after the first quarter, squeaked home by one point over favored Adelaide, winning 14-14 (98) to 15-7 (97).

Results of Australian Football League weekend matches: Sydney Swans 22-17 (149) def. Brisbane 14-5 (89). Richmond 10-7 (67) def. Geelong 8-10 (58). Essendon 14-6 (90) def. St. Kilda 13-9 (87). Port Adelaide 18-11 (119) def. Hawthorn 15-8 (98). West Coast 13-8 (86) def. Collingwood 9-11 (65). Carlton 29-11 (185) def. Western Bulldogs 15-15 (105). North Melbourne 22-20 (152) def. Melbourne 13-9 (87). Fremantle 14-14 (98) def. Adelaide 15-7 (97).

YANKEE GREATS — The two Yankees in uniform pictured on Page 22 are Whitney Ford (l) and Hank Bauer.

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City of Angels 4-45, 7-15, 10 - Mouse Hunt 11-30
A.M. 4-45, 7-15, 10 - The Big Labowski 7-15, 10 -
The Magic Sword-Warriors of Virtue 11-30 A.M. 4-
4-45 - Superboy 11-30 A.M. 4-45 - Lethal Weapon
HADERA
LEV #634355 Armageddon 7-15, 10 - He Got
Game 5, 7-15, 10 - The Magic Sword 11 A.M. 4 -
Hulan 11 A.M. 4, 5:30 - Lethal Weapon IV 7:15, 10
The Magic Sword (Hebrew dialogue) 11:30 A.M.
PETAH TIKVA
G.G. GIL 1-6 # 9087989 Grease 11:30 A.M. 2, 5,
7:30 A.M. 2, 5, 7:30 Wed. 11:30 A.M. 5, 7:30 - The
Patrol-City of Angels-Kidn (English dialogue)

Major League Statistics

(Through Friday's games)

AMERICAN LEAGUE

TEAM	P	W	L	ERA	BB	SO	SH	Sv
New York Yankees	3.62	29	33	290	640	9	35	
Cleveland Indians	4.04	23	41	345	622	4	25	
Minnesota Twins	4.18	26	42	265	551	4	26	
Boston Red Sox	4.27	24	42	304	617	8	32	
Tampa Bay Devil Rays	4.44	20	44	398	624	5	18	
Anaheim Angels	4.47	24	40	402	676	2	37	
Toronto Blue Jays	4.54	24	42	381	729	6	23	
Oakland Athletics	4.76	24	40	474	556	1	25	
Seattle Mariners	4.84	21	48	327	731	6	15	
Detroit Tigers	4.88	24	40	357	568	2	24	
Baltimore Orioles	4.89	26	39	335	691	7	19	
Los Angeles Angels	5.04	20	46	322	612	6	30	
Kansas City Royals	5.12	10	52	312	565	5	30	
Chicago White Sox	5.36	10	52	359	550	2	20	

INDIVIDUAL PITCHING

Based on 10 decisions	IP	H	R	BB	SO	W	L	ERA
Colonie	145	122	48	114	10	5	2.60	
Phillips	149	115	41	159	13	3	2.71	
Rogers	144	116	45	77	10	3	2.80	
Travis	107	84	51	75	9	3	2.86	
Arroyo	140	127	36	108	11	6	3.07	
Clayton	144	136	69	145	8	5	3.12	
Clayton	141	109	63	144	12	3	3.18	
Radtke	139	143	28	94	9	3	3.29	
Harmon	150	148	27	98	7	7	3.42	
Combs	128	112	31	128	14	3	3.44	
Thompson	157	149	52	101	9	8	3.67	
Taylor	51	50	19	41	3	3	3.68	
Dwight	124	113	20	94	11	2	3.69	
Burke	141	134	50	103	8	3	3.69	
Musina	119	105	21	93	5	3	3.69	
Pettitte	150	146	68	108	13	6	3.70	
Moehler	138	136	29	82	10	7	3.70	
Ericksen	164	161	42	127	11	7	3.83	
Farnsworth	128	123	40	96	9	6	3.86	
Olivera	113	111	63	70	5	6	3.98	
Nesada	101	105	30	78	4	8	4.01	
Williams	132	121	42	103	9	4	4.02	
Haynes	129	135	57	84	7	3	4.10	
Becker	141	151	42	90	9	8	4.20	
Saunders	120	118	75	113	2	9	4.20	
Wright	128	134	59	89	9	6	4.20	
Walden	146	138	66	97	11	5	4.23	
Wendell	107	116	43	40	5	4	4.25	
Nelson	151	142	54	107	9	4	4.35	
Lee	136	148	54	118	12	7	4.36	
Helling	140	134	53	95	13	5	4.50	
Sabers	102	107	19	61	5	5	4.52	
Milton	117	124	38	66	5	7	4.59	
Guzman	127	128	62	110	5	12	4.66	
Carpenter	101	106	33	81	4	4	4.71	
Napp	129	140	49	90	9	9	4.80	
Siroka	139	163	78	90	9	9	4.84	
Heugen	113	150	49	70	7	9	4.93	
XHill	78	94	37	45	8	5	5.15	
Hawkins	120	135	42	67	6	9	5.16	
Candiani	100	150	40	6	5	12	5.17	
Nieves	69	74	29	53	4	8	5.18	
Avery	68	68	32	27	3	5	5.18	
Pichardo	62	93	42	5	5	7	5.25	
Wright	133	149	64	69	8	6	5.35	
Smith	103	127	31	55	9	6	5.57	
Navarro	129	163	48	39	8	11	5.62	
DiPietro	92	104	48	45	2	11	5.67	
Burke	136	156	39	83	6	10	5.69	
Oquinn	120	132	39	90	4	7	5.70	
Cluckson	99	119	35	47	9	7	5.78	
Clark	100	112	51	72	7	7	5.81	
Rusch	124	160	42	73	6	12	5.88	
Borch	83	98	58	53	7	7	6.45	
DiVito	97	134	39	56	6	7	6.77	
Drabek	93	117	23	49	6	9	7.06	

TEAM BATTING

TEAM	P	W	L	ERA	BB	SO	SH	Sv
Texas Rangers	3.59	29	33	290	640	9	35	
Boston Red Sox	3.62	29	33	290	640	9	35	
New York Yankees	3.62	29	33	290	640	9	35	
Cleveland Indians	4.04	23	41	345	622	4	25	
Minnesota Twins	4.18	26	42	265	551	4	26	
Baltimore Orioles	4.27	24	42	304	617	8	32	
Seattle Mariners	4.44	20	44	398	624	5	18	
Anaheim Angels	4.47	24	40	402	676	2	37	
Toronto Blue Jays	4.54	24	42	381	729	6	23	
Oakland Athletics	4.76	24	40	474	556	1	25	
San Diego Padres	4.84	21	48	327	731	6	15	
Los Angeles Dodgers	4.88	24	40	357	568	2	24	
St. Louis Cardinals	4.89	26	39	335	691	7	19	
San Francisco Giants	5.04	20	46	322	612	6	30	
Pittsburgh Pirates	5.12	10	52	312	565	5	30	
Chicago Cubs	5.36	10	52	359	550	2	20	

INDIVIDUAL BATTING

Based on 250 plate appearances	AB	R	H	HR	RBI	Avg
Williams	251	51	88	11	49	.351
Rodriguez	266	57	125	10	53	.342
Walker	317	54	107	7	37	.338
Scars	301	52	100	15	67	.332
Maughan	369	56	121	15	64	.328
Segui	360	62	118	15	66	.328
Harris	305	32	100	1	28	.328
Djeter	317	36	118	11	47	.320
O'Neill	390	64	124	14	74	.318
Hughson	397	126	119	15	317	.315
Clark	355	62	112	14	64	.315
Edwards	328	50	116	17	47	.314
Garcia	367	61	117	17	69	.313
Caruso	317	45	99	4	34	.312
Glanderson	278	37	118	11	51	.312
Thomas	362	76	113	28	60	.312
Erstad	430	68	132	19	66	.307
Griffey	398	66	122	40	91	.307
Grieve	385	72	118	14	59	.306
Green	370	66	113	8	45	.305
Belle	308	69	112	10	90	.304
Alfonso	425	73	131	31	84	.301
Sanford	371	52	111	14	62	.299
DiSarcia	339	47	104	3	36	.299
Palmer	396	66	118	37	118	.297
Johnson	408	71	121	30	114	.297
Almaraz	370	62	110	9	35	.297
Hammer	347	52	103	18	64	.297
Chelgado	318	52	94	19	66	.296
Edmonds	382	71	113	15	56	.296
Estey	399	59	118	20	71	.296
Brown	320	52	94	9	58	.294
Offman	389	60	114	4	41	.293
Trenandez	328	42	94	6	42	.293
Gill	359	37	123	12	33	.293
McClellan	401	47	116	7	39	.289
McMinn	356	45	103	21	79	.289
Fryman	380	50	110	21	54	.289
Justice	370	63	107	13	54	.289
Vogel	375	56	108	0	36	.288
Durham	401	79	115	10	39	.287
Longaker	353	52	101	14	47	.286
Alvarez	369	60	105	5	43	.285
McLennan	302	41	84	4	42	.285
Cairo	315	32	89	4	31	.284

Hoffman ties mark for straight saves

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Trevor Hoffman tied the major league record by converting his 41st straight save opportunity and Greg Vaughn hit his 37th home run as the San Diego Padres beat the Houston Astros, 6-5 on Saturday.

Hoffman pitched a hitless ninth to match the mark of 41 in a row set by San Francisco's Rod Beck from 1993-95. Hoffman, whose streak began last year, has been successful on 33 straight chances this season.

Vaughn homered for the seventh time in nine games. It was also the 11th victory in 14 games for the West-leading Padres.

The victory before a sellout of 54,176 fans — attracted by a meeting of NL division leaders and a floppy hat giveaway — improved the Padres' record to 8-0 before crowds of 50,000 or more at Qualcomm Stadium this season.

Rockies 5, Cardinals 2
Nefti Perez hit for the cycle, completing it with a tiebreaking home run in the seventh inning that lifted host Colorado over slumping Mark McGwire and St. Louis.

Perez doubled in the first, tripled in the third, singled in the fifth and capped it with his eighth homer of the year. His hitting led the Rockies to their season-high fifth straight win.

McGwire went 0-for-2 to extend his hitless streak to 15 at-bats. He leads the majors with 43 home runs.

Reds 9, Giants 8
Willie Greene hit a three-run homer and Bret Boone added a two-run shot as visiting Cincinnati rallied to end an eight-game losing streak.

Cincinnati overcame J.T. Snow's first-inning grand slam and Jeff Kent's two-run homer in the ninth. Kent homered twice and drove in seven runs Friday night in the Giants' 12-2 win over the Reds.

Kent homered off Gabe White in the ninth and pinch-hitter Barry Bonds doubled with two outs. Danny Graves got his second save, striking out Charlie Hayes.

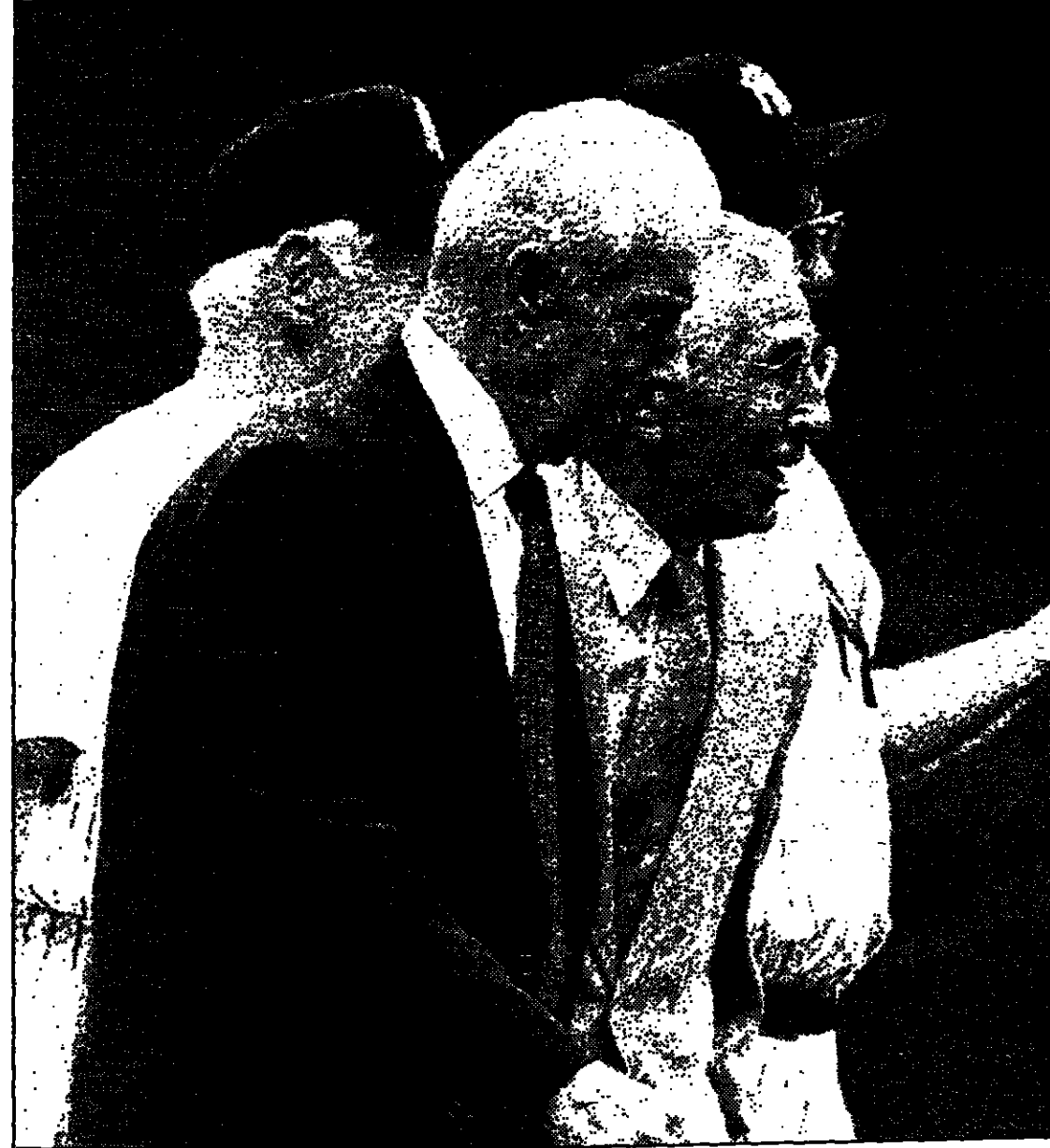
Pirates 4, Braves 1
Turner Ward hit a bizarre inside-the-park home run — making up for a home run lost to an umpire's call — and Pittsburgh won at home.

The Pirates led 2-1 with two outs in the seventh when Ward pinch-hit for Mark Smith. Ward hit a hard grounder that bounced up the middle and deflected off the glove of second baseman Tony Graffanino. The ball changed directions and took another wild carom past center fielder Andrew Jones, allowing Ward to score well ahead of the throw.

Brewers 4, Expos 3
Jerome Burnitz's second homer of the game, a solo shot with one out in the bottom of the ninth, gave Milwaukee the victory.

Burnitz went 3-for-4 in his second two-homer game of the season, hitting his team-leading 23rd and 24th. His game-winning landed about 200 feet deep in the right-field stands and made a winner of Bob Wickman (4-6), who pitched two-thirds of an inning in relief of Scott Kar.

Diamondbacks 5, Dodgers 3
Devon White doubled home two



HAPPY DAYS — Yankee greets Joe DiMaggio (front) and Phil Rizzuto leave the field after being introduced on Old Timers Day at Yankee Stadium. Can you identify the two partially-hidden Yankees in the picture? Answer on Page 21.

runs and scored from second base on a wild pitch as Arizona rode a five-run fourth inning to an away victory.

Former Dodger Omar Daal (4-5) got the victory by working 6 1/3 innings and despite allowing opposing pitcher Darren Dreifort (6-9) to hit his first major league home run.

In NL games reported in yesterday's edition.

Marlins 5, Phillies 4
Livan Hernandez (8-7) pitched seven innings for the win. Matt Mantei got four outs for his fourth save.

Curt Schilling (4-10), who struck out 11, took a 4-3 lead into the eighth, but gave up an RBI grounder to Mike Redmond.

Cubs 3, Mets 2
Pinch-hitter Glenallen Hill's two-run homer in the eighth inning led host Chicago who snapped the Mets' six-game winning streak.

AMERICAN LEAGUE
White Sox 6, Yankees 2
Greg Norton and Magglio Ordonez each drove in two runs and Chicago stopped New York's four-game winning streak with a victory on Old-Timers Day at Yankee Stadium.

A crowd of 55,638 that included

Hall of Famers Joe DiMaggio, Willie Ford and Phil Rizzuto saw the Yankees (72-26) fall two games behind the record pace set by the 1902 Pittsburgh Pirates through 98 games.

Former Yankees pitcher Jim Bouton, whose book *Four* led to an unofficial ban from Yankee Stadium, returned to the ballpark for the first time since his playing days.

But Reggie Jackson was a no-show, reportedly having resigned his advisory job with the Yankees a few days ago in the latest turn of his running feud with owner George Steinbrenner.

The White Sox ended an eight-game losing streak at Yankee Stadium.

Red Sox 5, Blue Jays 3
Nomar Garciaparra's two-run homer broke an eighth-inning tie and gave Boston a home victory.

Mo Vaughn, who singled to tie it 3-all in the sixth, walked with two outs in the eighth and Garciaparra followed with his 18th home run of the season.

Derek Lowe pitching one inning of perfect relief for the win. Tom Gordon pitched the ninth for his 28th save.

Devil Rays 7, Athletics 5
Mike Kelly hit a two-run homer

and Aaron Ledesma broke an eighth-inning tie with a RBI single as Tampa Bay won at home.

The victory gave the Devil Rays their first three-game winning streak since sweeping Toronto June 15-17. Oakland has dropped five straight, one shy of its longest losing streak this season.

Angels 6, Royals 5
Justin Baughman hit a bases-loaded sacrifice fly with one out in the top of the eighth inning as the Angels moved into a tie for first place in the AL West.

Twins 7, Rangers 6
David Ortiz, mired in a 2-for-23 slump, hit a two-out, two-run double in the eighth inning to complete a seven-run comeback and lead Minnesota to a home win.

In AL games reported in yesterday's edition.

Mariners 4, Orioles 2
Jeff Fassero (10-6) scattered 11 hits, striking out seven and walking three over eight innings, against a team that had won 14 of 15 and was averaging 7.6 runs in its last 10 games.

Indians 6, Tigers 5
Tony Clark was 4-for-5 with two doubles for Detroit. Seth Greisinger (1-5) was the losing pitcher.

Sutton, Doby enshrined in Hall of Fame

COOPERSTOWN, (AP) — To get there, you have to persevere. Don Sutton and Larry Doby most assuredly would concur.

CRITICS' CHOICE

DANCE

HELEN KAYE

Choreographer Ohad Naharin's latest work for the younger set, *Zakacha*, combines chacha's Latin rhythms with Naharin's wit and is danced by the Batseva Ensemble. Its busy week starts at the Karmiel Auditorium tonight at 6, at the Ra'anana Mofet tomorrow at 5:30, Wednesday at the Jerusalem Theater at 5 p.m. and Thursday at Beit Gabriel on the Kinneret at 6 p.m.

CLASSICAL MUSIC

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

The Israel Philharmonic Orchestra's end-of-season Beethoven festival continues tonight at 7 at Tel Aviv's Marm Auditorium, with Zubin Mehta leading his orchestra in Beethoven's monumental Ninth Symphony and Maria Joao Pires playing the Fourth Piano Concerto.

Tonight's production of the Israel Vocal Arts Institute is a double bill comprising Menotti's *The Telephone* and the third and fourth acts of Mozart's *Le nozze di Figaro* at the Enav Center in Tel Aviv at 8.

Today's program at the Keshet Eilon violin master classes at Kibbutz Eilon in western Galilee includes a master class with Haim Taub at 5 p.m. and a faculty concert with Annie Schnarch and Galina Zimis at 8:30 p.m. Tomorrow's program includes a master class with Ora Shiran at 5 p.m. and on Wednesday at 5 p.m. the master class will be presented by Andrea



The Kfar Blum chamber music festival features 'Between the Sacred and the Profane' by Menahem Wiesenberg.

Capelletti. On Tuesday and Wednesday at 8:30 p.m. there are also ensemble rehearsals open to the general public.

The afternoon concert at the Kfar Blum chamber music festival features Menahem Wiesenberg's *Between the Sacred and the Profane* for string quartet as well as George Rochberg's *Circles of Fire* at 5 p.m. At 9 p.m. you can enjoy chamber music by Schoenberg and Crumb.

RADIO

VOICE OF MUSIC

6:05 Arnold: Clarinet Concerto no. 1; Beethoven: String Quartet no. 3; Haydn: Trio in C major; Clementi: 2 Sonatas on 36 notes; 1 and 2; 7:07 J.C. Bach: Duo in F major for 2 Flutes; Carl Stamitz: Violin and Cello; 8:05 Schumann: Symphony no. 1 (Verni / Mulli); Regier: from Silhouettes; 9:05 Contemporary works; 12:00 Light Classical - from Hollywood films; 12:30 Music with the Week/Winton Marsalis, trumpet; 14:06 Encore; 15:00 The Romantic Concerto; 16:00 Early music; 17:00 Upper Galilee Music Days, 1998 - live from Kfar Blum, Master class (Wolpe, Wiesenberg, Matyugina); 18:00 Rochberg: Circles of Fire (Israeli premiere) for 2 Pianos; 19:00 Rachmaninoff: Piano Trio op. 9; 20:00 'Dumky'; Mozart: Symphony no. 33 K319; 21:00 Upper Galilee Music Days, 1998 - live from Kfar

Blum, Kurtal: Music for Soprano and Violin (Carmichael-Shiloach / Shiloach); Mozart: Divertimento for String Trio; K563 (Shanir / Elrai / Zori); Schoenberg: Pierrot lunaire for Speaker and Instruments op. 21 (Meier / Hachamov / Hildesheim / Magen / Elan / Orbach / Carmeli);

RADIOWEST

CNN news on the hour followed by local news; 6:00 Morning Drive till 9:00 - Music with Artist of the Week; 7:30 English Newspaper Headlines; 7:55 Sports Update; 8:00 Lions Trust Financial Update; 9:00 Morning Brunch (until 12:00) - 90s-90s Music with Sharon Wiegman; 10:00 Home Sweet Home - real estate and more with Tamar Yonah; 12:00 The Alysah Show; 12:15 Darling: Windows on the World; 13:00 Pick of the Hits with Donna Abraham; 13:05 World Business Report; 13:15 Record News; 13:30 Afternoon Drive - with Mike Reiss;

18:00 Barak Moore Show - Call-in talk radio; 18:45 Sports Update; 19:00 Soul and More; 21:00 WestSport with Danny Gewirtz and Jeremy Garzy; 22:00 West Rocks - with David Susskauer; 1:00 Late Night Music; 1:00 NBC WORLD SERVICE

6:00 News; 6:05 Write On; 6:15 Sports Roundup; 6:30 Westway; 7:00 The World Today; 7:30 Music with Artist of the Week; 8:00 The World Today; 8:30 The Works; 9:00 News; 9:15 Series From The Afterlife; 9:30 News; 10:00 News; 10:15 Off the Shelf: Nadine Gordimer; 10:30 The Vintage Chart Show; 11:00 News; 11:10 Pause For Thought; 11:15 Darling: Windows on the World; 12:00 News; 12:05 World Business Report; 12:15 Record News; 12:30 Westway Access

12:45 Sports Roundup; 13:00 Newsdesk; 13:05 Omnibus; 14:00 Newsdesk; 14:05 Jazzmatazz; 15:00 News; 15:05 World Business Report; 15:15 Britain Today; 15:30 Seven Days; 15:45 Sports Roundup; 16:00 Newsdesk; 17:00 News; 17:05 Outlook; 17:15 Welcome To My World; 17:30 The World Today; 18:00 Sports Roundup; 18:15 Westway Access; 18:30 The Multitask Sessions; 19:00 News; 19:30 World Business Report; 19:45 Britain Today; 20:00 News; 20:15 In Sight; 20:30 Seven Days; 20:45 Sports Roundup; 21:00 Newsdesk; 21:30 In Good Voice; 22:00 News; 22:05 Outlook; 22:25 Pause For Thought; 22:30 Multitask Hit List; 23:00 Newsdesk; 00:00 News

TV

JORDAN TV (S1)

(unconfirmed)

15:00 Holy Koran
15:10 Barney's Friends
15:30 The Worst Day of My Life
16:00 Neighbors
16:30 The Last Frontier
17:00 Thalassa
17:30 Acapulco Bay
18:00 The Journal
18:15 Cinque et Cinque
18:30 News Headlines
18:35 Hope and Gloria
19:00 Newsweek
21:10 Rescue Force 991
22:00 News in English
22:30 Law & Order
23:10 Baywatch Nights

EDUCATIONAL TV (11)

8:00 Animation
9:45 Hobblerby Dick
10:10 Hot Shots
10:35 Deepwater Haven
11:00 Time Exposures
11:25 Hot Science
12:00 Vacation TV
14:30 Star Trek - Deep Space 9
15:15 SpaceShip Earth

MIDDLE EAST TV (24/27)

14:30 Body Electric
15:00 Basic Training
15:30 The 700 Club
16:00 Larry King
16:30 The House
17:20 McGee and I
17:45 Major Dad
18:10 Jack Hanna
18:35 What You Have Kots
19:00 Showbiz
19:30 World News
20:00 News
20:00 NHL - Detroit vs Dallas
22:30 The 700 Club
23:30 CNN

CABLE

HEBREW PROGRAMS
19:30 A Moment in Life
19:35 Gregory Hines
20:00 The Day After Tomorrow
20:05 Are You Being Served?
21:00 News
21:35 Popolizza
22:05 Grace Under Fire
23:00 News
00:00 Verse of the Day

CHANNEL 2 (22)

5:45 Today's Programs
5:55 On the Edge of the Shell
6:00 Animation
6:30 Rainbow Children
6:45 This Morning
6:50 Rikva Mirakel
6:55 Rich Man Poor Man
10:50 Scooby Doo
11:45 Top Secret
12:12 Johnny Quest
12:35 Ellen Cleghorne
13:00 My Secret Identity
13:30 Home and Away
14:00 Calculated Risk
14:30 News
15:00 Major Dad
15:25 Rosanne
15:45 The Bold and the Beautiful
16:00 World Business Report
15:15 Britain Today
15:30 Seven Days
15:45 Sports Roundup
16:00 Newsdesk
17:00 News
17:05 Outlook
17:15 Welcome To My World
17:30 The World Today
18:00 Sports Roundup
18:15 Westway Access
18:30 The Multitask Sessions
19:00 News
19:30 World Business Report
19:45 Britain Today
20:00 News
20:15 In Sight
20:30 Seven Days
20:45 Sports Roundup
21:00 Newsdesk
21:30 In Good Voice
22:00 News
22:05 Outlook
22:25 Pause For Thought
22:30 Multitask Hit List
23:00 Newsdesk
00:00 News

CHANNEL 3 (33)

18:00 Cartoons
18:45 Armons
19:00 The Simpsons
19:05 Wiseman of the Week
19:10 News in Arabic
19:15 Newsweek
20:00 Entertainment Now
20:30 Great Romances of the Twentieth Century
20:35 The Simpsons
21:30 Love and Bullets
21:35 The Lab
21:45 The Lab
21:55 The Lab
22:00 The Lab
22:05 The Lab
22:10 The Lab
22:15 The Lab
22:20 The Lab
22:25 The Lab
22:30 The Lab
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23:40 The Lab
23:45 The Lab
23:50 The Lab
23:55 The Lab
00:00 The Lab

CHANNEL 4 (4)

11:30 Henshale (Hebrew, 1977) - classic musical comedy starring Miki Dornin
13:05 Dick Tracy
13:10 Dick Tracy
13:15 Dick Tracy
13:20 Dick Tracy
13:25 Dick Tracy
13:30 Dick Tracy
13:35 Dick Tracy
13:40 Dick Tracy
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15:55 Dick Tracy
16:00 Dick Tracy

CABLE

HEBREW PROGRAMS
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21:00 News
21:35 Popolizza
22:05 Grace Under Fire
23:00 News
00:00 Verse of the Day

CHANNEL 2 (22)

5:45 Today's Programs
5:55 On the Edge of the Shell
6:00 Animation
6:30 Rainbow Children
6:45 This Morning
6:50 Rikva Mirakel
6:55 Rich Man Poor Man
10:50 Scooby Doo
11:45 Top Secret
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22:00 News
22:05 Outlook
22:25 Pause For Thought
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23:50 The Lab
23:55 The Lab
00:00 The Lab

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11:30 Henshale (Hebrew, 1977) - classic musical comedy starring Miki Dornin
13:05 Dick Tracy
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13:15 Dick Tracy
13:20 Dick Tracy
13:25 Dick Tracy
13:30 Dick Tracy
13:35 Dick Tracy
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amends
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Joe Hoffman & Ori LewisBetar set
to bid
B.36 adieu

By DEREK FATTAL

Betar Jerusalem are back in action tonight (kickoff 21:00 Israel time) in the return leg of their European Cup first preliminary round match against B.36 Torshavn.

The Jerusalemis have the advantage of a 4-1 lead from last Wednesday's clash at Teddy Stadium and are hoping to leave the Faroe Islands in the North Atlantic with the distinction of being the first Israeli team to muster a victory on the windswept tundra of the bleak isles.

Tonight's contest has been brought forward by two days so as not to conflict with the islanders' independence day celebrations, although the Betarists have seen little sign of any party spirit since arriving on Friday.

The only question mark over the Betar's line up is Stefan Salloi who was the hat-trick hero in last Wednesday's contest. He is nursing a light injury but is expected to play.

The Betarists have applied to UEFA to obtain permission to field Shmuelik Levy. It is feared that medication he is receiving might register as a banned substance.

The atmosphere for the match will be - almost literally - a near polar opposite to the affair at Teddy. It is under 10 degrees Celsius, and only a scant crowd is expected in Tofur, an hour's drive from the capital.

An aggregate win for Betar will see them take on Benfica next.

England set to beat South Africa

Fraser takes 10 wickets in match; Atherton guides hosts towards winning target of 247

NOTTINGHAM (Reuters) - A magnificent bowling performance from veteran seamer Angus Fraser and resolute batting from Mike Atherton steered England towards a famous victory on the fourth day of the fourth Test at Trent Bridge yesterday.

Needing 247 for a win that would level the series at one-all with the final Test to come, England finished the day on 108 for just one wicket with Atherton surviving a ferocious spell from Allan Donald to reach 43 not out. Nasser Hussain was with him on 25.

A moment of high drama and controversy when the former England captain had 27 caused Donald to behave in a manner rarely, if ever, seen before in his career.

A bounce forced Atherton to take evasive action but the ball deflected from his gloves to wicket keeper Mark Boucher.

Donald was furious when New Zealand umpire Steve Dunne gave the batsman not out, apparently believing that Atherton's hand was not touching the bat when it was hit.

Donald repeatedly stared and spoke to Atherton for several overs after the incident but Atherton remained unbowed. Donald's blood pressure rose further when Hussain was dropped by Boucher on 23 three overs later.

Fraser had earlier claimed five for 60, his second five wicket haul of the match, to help dismiss South Africa for 208 in their second innings and give him match figures of 10 for 122.

It was Fraser's second 10 wicket haul in Tests after his 11 for 110 in the second Test in the West Indies last year.

Three wickets fell in the morning session when South Africa resumed on 92 for three beginning with that of Daryll Cullinan.

Having looked in prime form, scoring 56 from 105 balls with eight boundaries, Cullinan departed in exactly the same

way as he did in the first innings when a Fraser delivery was clipped off leg stump straight to Mark Ramprakash at square leg.

Jonny Rhodes (2) completed a miserable Test when he was given out caught down the leg side by Alec Stewart off Dominic Cork.

Shaun Pollock also exited cheaply after aiming an expansive cover drive at Cork which provided a straightforward catch to Stewart and he departed for seven.

Cork removed danger man Hansie Cronje for 67 after a poor shot and a catch by Alec Stewart before Fraser wrapped the innings up with Mark Boucher (35) caught at cover, Steve Elworthy (10) trapped lbw and last man Paul Adams caught by Stewart - his eighth catch of the match.

Although England should feel confident of claiming a victory that will level the series at one-all with one match to play, history is not on their side.

They have successfully chased 247 or more in the fourth innings just five times, and only once on English soil.

South Africa first innings 374

(J.Cronje 128)

England first innings 336

(M.Ramprakash 87 not out)

South Africa second innings

(overnight 62-3)

G.Kirsten lbw b Fraser.....6

J.Liebenberg lbw b Gough.....0

J.Kallis c Stewart b Cork.....1

D.Cullinan c Ramprakash b Fraser...56

H.Cronje c Stewart b Cork.....67

J.Rhodes c Stewart b Cork.....7

S.Pollock c Stewart b Cork.....7

M.Boucher c Hussain b Fraser.....35

S.Elworthy lbw b Fraser.....10

A.Adams not out.....7

P.Adams c Stewart b Fraser.....1

Extras (b-1 lb-4 w-1).....8

Total.....208

Fall of wickets: 1-3 2-17 3-21 4-119 5-122

6-136 7-189 8-193 9-200

Bowling: Gough 13-4-59-1 (1w), Fraser

28-3-6-62-5, Cork 20-4-60-4, Flintoff 6-1-

16-0, Salisbury 5-2-9-0

England second innings

M.Boucher c Boucher b Pollock.....22

M.Atherton not out.....43

N.Hussain not out.....25

Extras (b-1 lb-10 w-1 nb-6).....18

Total (for one wicket).....108

Fall of wickets: 1-40

Bowling (to date): Donald 13-5-17-0,

Pollock 15-2-39-1 (5nb 1w), Adams 6-2-7-

0, Kallis 4-1-5-0, Elworthy 3-0-17-0,

Cronje 4-1-12-0 (1nb)



MAN OF THE MOMENT - England's Angus Fraser celebrates after taking another South African wicket yesterday, one of 10 in the match.

Hakkinen
wins
Austrian
Grand Prix

SPIELBERG, Austria (Reuters) - World championship-leading Finn Mika Hakkinen stretched his lead to eight points yesterday when he drove to a commanding victory in the Austrian Grand Prix.

Hakkinen, in a McLaren, came home clear of his team mate Briton David Coulthard who mounted a stirring charge through the field after starting from 14th position on the grid.

Twice world champion Michael Schumacher finished third for Ferrari after an incident-packed race thanks to the generosity of his team mate Eddie Irvine who slowed down in the closing stages to allow him to grab a podium position.

Irvine's actions, presumably following team orders, may however attract the wrath of the authorities since such interference with a race result was banned following McLaren's manipulation of the season-opening Australian Grand Prix in Melbourne.

Schumacher's younger brother Ralf put up a much tougher fight to resist his brother's overtaking attempt before letting him get by and he ended up fifth for Jordan ahead of defending world champion Jacques Villeneuve of Canada in a Williams.

Hakkinen's victory was his fifth this season and the sixth of his career and ended Schumacher's hopes of extending his streak of Ferrari wins to four.

But his feat was overshadowed on a hot dry afternoon by the brilliance of Coulthard's charge through for the most spectacular race finish if not the best result, of his career.

Hakkinen now leads the title race with 66 points ahead of Schumacher on 58 with Coulthard third on 36. There are six rounds of the 16-race calendar remaining.

Auriol leads
as NZ rally
enters last day

AUCKLAND (AP) - Didier Auriol of France holds a slender lead going into today's final day of the Rally of New Zealand following a water-logged day of competition yesterday.

While torrential rain caused the cancellation of two stages in Northland, the 40-year-old Auriol revealed in the conditions to establish a 30-second lead over his Spanish teammate, Carlos Sainz.

Auriol had started the day with a two-second lead over Sainz, with world championship leader Colin McRae of Scotland in a Subaru in third place.

The Frenchman, who earlier in the season was criticized for his form, was quickest on five of the day's eight stages, including a stage record at Ararua where he was 10 seconds quicker than anyone else.

Sainz, who was fastest in the three stages Auriol didn't win, switched to his teammate's tire choice and held a 14-second lead over third-placed Richard Burns in a Mitsubishi. McRae is fourth.

O'Grady wins 14th stage
as Tour heads for Alps

GRENOBLE, France (AP) - The Tour de France concentrated on the basics for the most part yesterday with the Alps coming up.

With the justice system off on the weekend, no new revelations on the on-going drug scandal coming out and the riders calming down after expressing their grief on Friday and Saturday, it seemed like a normal day on the Tour de France.

So Stuart O'Grady of Australia took advantage of the situation to gain a stage victory to go along with the three days he had in the leader's yellow jersey last week.

Defending champion Jan Ullrich still held the overall lead in the race, 71 seconds ahead of American Bobby

Julich.

O'Grady used his sprinting ability to capture the 14th stage yesterday from Valreas to Grenoble, 187 kilometers, the last day before the Alps.

O'Grady was part of a six-man breakaway that left the pack early in the day. He just edged Italian Giuseppe Calcaterra at the line for the victory.

Calcaterra moved slightly into O'Grady in the final line and was dropped from second to sixth in the stage standings.

With temperatures above 30 degrees Celsius and no threats in the group ahead, the major favorites conserved their strength with the Alps coming up over the next three days.

Today's 15th stage from

Grenoble to Les Deux Alpes, 189 kilometers with four major climbs including two rated "out of category" on a scale of steepness, height and length.

While the Tour appeared almost racing under normal activity, the next step of the drug scandal will unfold today.

The TVM team's director and doctor were ordered jailed over the weekend. They were expected to be brought to Reims for more investigation concerning a drug seizure in the car of one of its officials in March.

Tour director Jean-Marie Leblanc has said that he will throw the TVM team out of the Tour, as he did with the Festina team, if there is any evidence or statements concerning use of prohibited drugs by the team.

Broogna wins for Phillies

PHILADELPHIA (AP) - Rico Broogna hit a sacrifice fly in the bottom of the ninth inning and the Philadelphia Phillies rallied from an early seven-run deficit to beat the Florida Marlins 10-9 yesterday.

Todd Zeile's two-run homer and RBI single helped the Marlins take a 7-0 in the third inning. But the Phillies struck for their 32nd comeback win of the season, including their second victory after trailing by seven runs.

Red Sox 6, Blue Jays 3

In Boston, Nomar Garciaparra hit a three-run inside-the-park homer, and Pedro Martinez pitched seven scoreless innings to lead the Boston Red Sox over the Toronto Blue Jays.

Mariners 10, Orioles 4

In Baltimore, Ken Griffey Jr. stole a career-high three bases and scored

three runs as the Seattle Mariners handed the Baltimore Orioles their second straight loss, 10-4.

Tigers 8, Indians 1

In Cleveland, switch-hitter Tony Clark hit home runs from both sides of the plate to help Brian Moehler earn a rare road victory as the Detroit Tigers beat the Cleveland Indians.

Braves 2, Pirates 1

In Pittsburgh, Greg Maddux extended his four-year winning streak against Pittsburgh, repeatedly squirming out of jams before Andres Galaraga's go-ahead single in the eighth inning gave the Atlanta Braves victory.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Yankees 6, White Sox 3

In New York, Bernie Williams' tiebreaking solo homer triggered a three-run sixth inning that carried

the New York Yankees to a 6-3 victory over the Chicago White Sox.

Cubs 3, Mets 1

In Chicago, Sammy Sosa hit his 38th homer and Kerry Wood remained unbeaten at Wrigley Field as the Chicago Cubs downed the New York Mets 3-1, giving them a 31/2-game lead in the NL wild-card race.

Devil Rays 3, Athletics 1

In St. Petersburg, Wilson Alvarez won for the first time in over two months and Fred McGriff hit a two-run homer as the Tampa Bay Devil Rays equaled a season-best four-game winning streak with victory over the Oakland Athletics.

Saturday's games, Page 22

IFA, Sportoto fail to agree funding
source for new league format

By ORI LEWIS

Barring a last-minute turnaround, next season's top soccer leagues will continue to be played under the old format, following the failure of a compromise deal between the Israel Football Association and the Sportoto yesterday.

Moshe Feled, deputy education minister in charge of sport had tried to get the parties to settle their differences over funding for the new-style league which would contain 12 teams in three divisions in the 2001-2002 season, but there was

intransigence on both sides as the IFA, headed by chairman Gavri Levy, and the Sportoto, headed by Roni Bar-On, failed to agree on where an extra NIS2million will come from.

The IFA wants NIS12 million from the Sportoto in order to fund the three-round league which would play 39 matches per season. The Sportoto will only agree to give NIS 10 million and wants the government to fund the difference.

With just four weeks to go to the beginning of the new season, it now looks unlikely that the changes can be implemented in time.

AIR CANADA

Noon lunch at Fisherman's Wharf
AIR CANADA will get you there in time
Depart TLV 1:30 a.m., Arrive SFI 1:30 a.m. same day

THE WEATHER

http://www.accuweather.com

ISRAEL

All maps, forecasts and data provided by AccuWeather, Inc. © 1998

EUROPE WEATHER TODAY

Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.

ISRAEL CITIES

City	Today	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low
Ariel	30/17	14/5/16	30/17	17/20	30/17	18/24	30/17	18/24	30/17
Bnei Brak	33/17	18/6/14	33/17	21/10	34/13	21/10	34/13	21/10	34/13
Be'er Sheva	41/108	23/7/34	41/108	27/11	41/108	27/11	41/108	27/11	41/108
Haifa	31/18	23/7/34	31/18	27/11	31/18	27/11	31/18	27/11	31/18
Jerusalem	30/18	18/5/16	30/18	19/16	30/18	18/5/16	30/18	18/5/16	30/18
Katza	37/28	14/5/16	37/28	17/20	37/28	18/5/16	37/28	18/5/16	37/28
Netanya	31/18	18/6/14	31/18	21/10	31/18	21/10	31/18	21/10	31/18
Tel Aviv	31/18	18/6/14	31/18	21/10	31/18	21/10	31/18	21/10	31/18
Tiberias	38/100	23/7/34	38/100	27/11	38/100	27/11	38/100	27/11	38/100

Weather (W): sunny, partly cloudy, cloudy, showers, thunderstorms, rain, drizzle, fog, snow, ice, hail.

INTERNATIONAL CITIES

City	Today	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low
Amsterdam	23/11	14/5/16	23/11	17/20	23/11	18/24	23/11	18/24	23/11
Beijing	30/17	26/11	30/17	27/11	30/17	26/11	30/17	26/11	30/17
Berlin	25/17	18/6/14	25/17	17/20	25/17	18/6/14	25/17	17/20	25/17
Buenos Aires	23/11	14/5/16	23/11	17/20	23/11	18/24	23/11	18/24	23/11
Calcutta	32/28	23/7/34	32/28	27/11	32/28	27/11	32/28	27/11	32/28
Chicago	28/14	17/20	28/14	19/16	28/14	18/5/16	28/14	18/5/16	28/14
Frankfurt	24/15	16/6/14	24/15	17/20	24/15	17/20	24/15	17/20	24/15
Hong Kong	32/17	26/11	32/17	27/11	32/17	26/11	32/17	26/11	32/17
London	23/11	14/5/16	23/11	17/20	23/11	18/24	23/11	18/24	23/11
Los Angeles	33/17	26/11	33/17	27/11	33/17	26/11	33/17	26/11	33/17
Moscow	23/11	14/5/16	23/11	17/20	23/11	18/24	23/11	18/24	23/11
New York	23/11	14/5/16	23/11	17/20	23/11	18/24	23/11	18/24	23/11
Paris	23/11	14/5/16	23/11	17/20	23/11	18/24	23/11	18/24	23/11
Rio de Janeiro	28/14	17/20	28/14	19/16	28/14	18/5/16	28/14	18/5/16	28/14
Sao Paulo	28/14	17/20	28/14	19/16	28/14	18/5/16	28/14	18/5/16	28/14
Tokyo	28/14	17/20	28/14	19/16	28/14	18/5/16	28/14	18/5/16	28/14
Vienna	23/11	14/5/16	23/11	17/20	23/11	18/24	23/11	18/24	23/11
Washington	23/11	14/5/16	23/11	17/20	23/11	18/24	23/11	18/24	23/11
Zurich	23/11	14/5/16	23/11	17/20	23/11	18/24	23/11	18/24	23/11

NORTH AMERICA WEATHER TODAY

Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.

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